



All set for an Indian head massage...
SEE PAGE 5.

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Weekly audited distribution (26 weeks) to 31/12/08 - 42,924 (GEM Series). Audited by Grinter Johnson Ltd. Chartered Accountants.

www.bridgend-today.co.uk www.porthcawl-today.co.uk THURSDAY, APRIL 30TH, 2009

All change as local primary schools set for closure/merger

REPORT by JAYNE ISAAC

A PRIMARY school in the Pyle-Cornelly area is set to close and an infant and junior school merged – under plans to re-organise education in the area.

The local Welsh medium school – Ysgol y Ferch o'r Sger – is likely to move for the second time in a decade.

A special meeting took place in Kenfig Hill on Monday night for school governors and headteachers when the proposals were explained by education officers, ahead of Tuesday's cabinet meeting, when a full report was received.

In the report, Hilary Anthony, corporate director for children, revealed that work has been going on for some time into various options for re-organising schools in Kenfig Hill, Pyle, Cefn Cribwr and Cornelly.

The object of the re-organisation is to eliminate surplus places in the current schools and also bring about improvements in the buildings and facilities in use.

The main thrust of the report, presented by Trevor Guy, head of strategy in the Children's Directorate, concerns future arrangements in Pyle and Cornelly, with options under consideration including the closure of Pil Primary in Pyle; the closure of Afon y Felin Primary or the closure of Corneli Primary, both in North Cornelly.

Ysgol y Ferch o'r Sger would move to either the Pil or Afon y Felin sites. This would free up space at the Corneli Primary School campus, which is shared between the two schools at the moment.

It was in the late 1990s that the Welsh medium school moved from its original location at Cornelly Cross into the former Marlas Infants School site, adjoining the then Cornelly Junior School.

One of the options being considered is the merger of Corneli with Afon y Felin to give a combined new school of 354 pupils plus 39 nursery places, as at September 2008 figures.

Pupil numbers are expected to increase to 452 by 2015 because of planned housing developments in the area. A 56-place nursery would also be needed.

The Integrated Children's Centre, located on the Corneli/Ferch o'r Sger campus, provides nursery education for both schools plus community facilities.

The report stated that while the five-acre Afon y Felin site is big enough to accommodate a new combined English medium school, it could not accommodate the Integrated Children's Centre as well.

If the new amalgamated school was located at the Corneli Primary school site instead, Ysgol y Ferch o'r Sger would have to be moved, freeing up the room needed to take the extra pupils from Afon y Felin.

Moving the Welsh school would give that school opportunities to expand in future. This is not possible on its present campus,

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 23: See also Gateways to Valleys school plan)

BRIDGEND SIDES SHARE CUP SPOILS!



A thrilling encounter between Tondy and Bridgend Athletic under-12s saw both sides share the Cup after a scintillating 21-21 draw.

Turn to page 29 for a report and pictures.

Will merger lead to fewer bobbies on town's streets?

NEWS that the new head of the super police division, created by the merger of Bridgend and the Vale, is to be based at Bridgend Police station has been welcomed by Porthcawl Town Council.

Chief Supt Dave Dando, who is to take over the new merged division, wrote to the town council to update them on developments and offering to hold a briefing meeting with councillors.

In his letter, Chief Supt Dando stated he would seek to maximise opportunities to enhance front line policing, especially where boundaries overlap. He said that there could be real benefits from the merger.

He also paid tribute to the work done by the outgoing Bridgend commander, Supt Tim Jones, who is moving to another area.

Coun Chris Smart was concerned to ensure that the policing needs of Porthcawl would be properly met under the new arrangement.

"We must protect Porthcawl and make sure that this change will not lead to a reduction of the police presence in the town."

He went on: "We are a seaside town with a huge number of visitors in the summer."

He said that the council should invite Chief Supt Dando to a meeting with the council to explain how the changes will affect the town.

This was supported by Coun Alana Davies, who said it was an excellent suggestion.

She also praised the work done by Tim Jones: "We have all been impressed by his style of leadership."

"He has done a fantastic job and stayed here longer than many."

She suggested writing a personal letter of thanks to him and this was agreed.

Coun Norah Clarke was concerned that the savings being created by the merger did not lead to fewer policemen on the streets.

Coun Gerald Davies said that policing in Porthcawl seemed to have gone backwards: "We used to have squads of police sleeping in the police station ready to take to the streets at 1am on weekends to deal with any trouble. We must take this opportunity to put our case."

A letter will be sent to the new commander inviting him to a meeting of the council.

47 empty shops in Bridgend

A SURVEY of shops in Bridgend carried out by the town's Civic Trust in March has revealed that there were 47 empty units at that time.

The survey found that 13 per cent of the 345 shop premises in the town centre were vacant.

The highest percentage of empty shops was at the Brackla Centre which is awaiting refurbishment. Work is on hold at the moment because of the economic downturn.

Here, there were seven empty shops out of a total of 16 – representing a 43 per cent vacancy rate.

Brackla Street itself also had 27 per cent vacancies, with three empty shops out of 11.

The Rhiw Centre was next on the list with four empty premises out of 22 and Market Street tied on 18.2 per cent vacancy rate – because it has eight empty shops out of 44.

At the other end of the scale, there were no empty premises in Queen Street, on the old stone bridge, or in the Nolton Arcade.

Bridgend is doing much better than other towns in Wales, like Holyhead, which has a 39 per cent vacancy rate, and Milford Haven, which has 30 per cent of its shops vacant.

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Lions start the countdown

MEMBERS of Porthcawl Lions Club have been busy preparing for their annual May Fayre, which will be held, as usual, on Bank Holiday Monday (May 4) at The Rest Hotel, Rest Bay, Porthcawl.

Gates open at 11am and entrance plus parking is £2 per car; the entry fee for pedestrians is 50 pence.

Spokesman John Cosson said: "There will be rides, games and many other attractions for the children, as well as games, books, numerous stalls and a refreshment tent for all

the family. The arena will stage different displays and even a dog show throughout the day.

"This year much of the fayre is under cover, although the Lions are really hoping for a glorious sunny day like last year so that they can raise a record amount of money for needy charities."

"Last year the event made around £5,000, all of which has been donated to worthy causes, most of them local."

"So come along, take the family and help those in need while having a great day out," he urged the public.

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Visiting Dutch police officers go on a neighbourhood tour of Maesteg

MAESTEG police played host to two police constables from Holland recently.

PC Iris Reijm and PC Lisette Hoogeweeff from the Kennemerland Police Force of West Holland visited the town with Superintendent David I'Anson, international policing advisor for the NPJA (National Policing Improvement Agency) and Karen Smith, international development and projects officer, to observe neighbourhood policing as part of the Dutch police training process.

Led by Maesteg Sergeant Chris Truscott and Caerau PCSOs Rachael Bargery and Tom Davies, the team discussed the role of police community support officers, the delegation of tasks to neighbourhood teams and response teams, shift patterns, the decisions around officers patrolling alone or in pairs, and equipment.

PC Lisette Hoogeweeff said: "In Kennemerland Police, the community officer for each area is a police officer of sergeant rank. They are usually very experienced officers with many years in service, who have built up relations with the community while in employment."

"The way South Wales Police have so many officers working on different levels in the community works really well."

Later in the day, the visitors were shown the Duffryn Flats project, where PCSOs Rachael Bargery and Karl Smith worked with crime prevention officer Gwyn Batten and Valleys 2 Coast to organise the building of a wall and garage door.



The building work now prevents groups of youths behaving antisocially in the walkway that formerly ran underneath the building, improving the lives of the residents.

Iris said: "During our training, we have to do a community project that focuses on reducing crime through community relations. Seeing PCSO Bargery and PCSO Smith's work to reduce antisocial behaviour has been really inspiring."

In Holland, training police officers are required to visit another European country to observe their policing style as part of the development process.

Staying at the NPJA International Academy in Hampshire, the Dutch officers, Superintendent I'Anson and Karen Smith selected the Bridgend division of South Wales Police specifically as their

study area for neighbourhood policing.

Maesteg Police Sergeant Chris Truscott said: "It's been an absolute pleasure having Lisette and Iris visit us today. It's really satisfying to hear our international counterparts are so impressed with the way our Neighbourhood Policing Teams operate to solve community problems here in Bridgend borough."

Superintendent I'Anson said: "We would like to thank South Wales Police for accommodating the visit. We were really impressed by the dedication of Sgt. Truscott and his neighbourhood team to improve community safety and the environment within their area, and saw first hand the 'real changes' being made. Iris and Lisette really benefited from the experience."

DON'T LET SPIN WIN!

I WAS incensed to find that not only has glass disposal been withdrawn from the Porthcawl Dock Road car park site, but the 'bank' for tin cans has also disappeared.

All this shortly after we received a glossy leaflet describing 'progress' in our local recycling arrangements – at least there is a paper collecting point for this.

Further, how appropriate is it to threaten the conscientious few, who carry in their recyclables, with prosecution as fly tippers?

Please don't let government spin and control freakey take over at local level, too.
Andrew Collier, Porthcawl

WRITE IN!

Share your views and news with The GEM.
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HIGH TIDE TIMES

UNTIL MAY 7

The high tides listed in The GEM are those in Barry. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Porthcawl, the high point will be 15–20 minutes earlier.

	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
DATE	AM	M	PM	M
30 Thur	11.33	13.3	23.47	13.2
01 Fri			12.31	13.0
02 Sat	00.53	12.8	13.34	12.6
03 Sun	01.58	12.6	14.42	12.4
04 Mon	03.12	12.8	15.57	12.8
05 Tues	04.31	13.2	16.59	13.6
06 Wed	05.32	13.7	17.59	13.8
07 Thur	06.19	14.0	18.38	14.0

THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters should include an address and contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (in certain circumstances), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters brief and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

Lifeguard club has been let down by 'broken promises'

I enclose a photograph of my brother Ray Evans on his wedding day. Ray and his wife Dee were married for 40 years.

Sadly, Ray died last week after a hard fight with cancer (see page 4 for a tribute).

In the background in this photograph is the half-finished Porthcawl lifeguard building, and his colleagues in the photo are lifeguards and RNLI crewmen.

These men, and other volunteers, completed the building and it was used for many years until it burned down.

The fact is that, despite receiving an insurance payout that should have made rebuilding it a formality, there is still no replacement, and I know that Ray was des-

perately disappointed at the broken promises and the red tape that have led to this situation.

I have lost count of the excuses that have been put forward to block a replacement.

There have been claims that there was no proper road to Rhych Point, that it would not be possible to install

toilets or showers, and that emergency vehicles would have difficulty getting there.

In recent years, more time has been wasted by saying that Porthcawl regeneration proposals had to be finalised before a lifeguard clubhouse could be built.

I do not believe any of these excuses. A

well-run lifeguard station is essential for any modern holiday centre.

Visitors still come to Porthcawl to enjoy the sea, and hundreds of holiday homes are close by in Trecco Bay.

The broken promises that have let down the lifeguards have also let down Porthcawl.

Ken Evans
Porthcawl



ABOVE:

Among this 1969 wedding party are Ken Evans (back row third from left) and Ray Evans (back row fourth from left).

LOCAL INFORMATION

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Westminster office - 02072194417
Constituency office - 47, Noltan Street, Bridgend.
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Constituency Office 01656 737777
JANICE GREGORY AM for Ogmore
Constituency Office 01656 860034
CARWYN JONES AM for Bridgend
Constituency office 01656 664320
Bethan Jenkins AM for South West Wales
Telephone 01639 643549
BRIDGEND CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau,
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CF31 1JD 01656 654951 - Open to personal
callers: Tuesday-Friday 10am-12.30pm or telephone
service: Monday-Friday 10am-12.30pm.
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POLICE Bridgend 01656 655555
Porthcawl 01656 785411
Maesteg 01656 732122
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'Come and check long queues in town' Post Office chiefs are urged

POST OFFICE bosses are to be invited to visit Porthcawl Post Office on a Monday morning, to see for themselves the effects of staffing cut backs at the branch.

Porthcawl Town Council wrote to the Post Office to complain about delays of up to half an hour in being served at the main office in John Street, which is located at the back of the Spar shop, following cuts to manning levels.

Staff hours have been reduced and one person has been made redundant.

Councillors alleged that elderly people are having to stand for as long as half an hour because there are not enough staff on duty.

But in his reply, David Wall said that talks had been held at the end of 2008 about Porthcawl and the sub postmaster had decided to reduce the number of staff and reduce the hours of others.

He said: "This is his

prerogative, but it must be clear that this should not be at the compromise of quality of service."

He added that the council's complaints about queuing had not been borne out by 'mystery shopper' surveys carried out at the post office which found an "excellent level of service".

Mr Wall reported that in order to fully understand the picture in Porthcawl, he was asking customers to give details of their own experiences, with times and dates when they had to queue up.

They would then take the issue up with the postmaster - who is an employee of Capper and Co, which holds the franchise.

He added that customers could contact the Post Office with information on the Customer Helpline on 08457 223344.

However, Coun Chris Smart, who had first raised the issue, found the reply most unsatisfactory:

"I don't know whether he's on a different planet or he

doesn't realise what's going on," he said.

"Some mornings are chaotic in the post office. At 3pm one day, there were 15 people queuing and only three counters open. There are five counter points.

"The worry is that elderly people will find it hard to stand up for half an hour. I think we should take him up in his offer of a meeting with operational managers involved.

"We should meet at the post office and pick a Monday or Tuesday morning so that we can watch what's going on.

"At the moment, people are walking out because they are not prepared to wait."

Coun Mary Emmet Lewis told the council that on a Monday at 11.15am, she had counted 18 people in the queue and there were only two staff on duty.

Many of those waiting were elderly and there were also mothers with babies in prams.

It was agreed to ask for this meeting.

JAYNE ISAAC

COUPLE RENEW VOWS IN SANDVILLE CHAPEL

PHOTOGRAPHS by KEITH E MORGAN



ABOVE: Sian and Nigel with children Jack and Emily.

EARLIER this month, Sian and Nigel Preddy of Pencoe chose to renew their wedding vows in St Michael's Church at the Sandville Self-Help Centre.

The Rev. Ian Rees, Vicar of Pyle, officiated at the service.

The couple first met 18 years ago at Sandville when Sian was a student volunteer, and Nigel was a patient.

Nigel recovered from his illness, and they married eight years later at St Illtyd's Church, Newcastle,

Bridgend.

Sian and Nigel have now been happily married for 10 years. Before they had children (Jack, aged five, and Emily, 19 months), Sian worked in special needs education.

Nigel is employed by Corus at Port Talbot Steelworks as a quality specialist.

Gwyneth Poacher told The GEM: "I am so happy for Sian and Nigel. They met at a difficult time but everything has worked out so well."



ABOVE: Sian and Nigel outside St Michael's Church with Sister Gwyneth Poacher and the Rev Ian Rees.

RIGHT: Sian and Nigel cutting the cake at the renewal of their wedding vows ceremony.



Tres entente cordiale between twin towns

THE visit to Porthcawl by a delegation from its twin town of St Sebastien sur Loire has been hailed a success by the town council.

Coun Alana Davies reported that a reception was held at the Hi Tide, attended by 59 French visitors and about the same number of Porthcawl residents, including members of the town twinning association and the council.

Gifts between the two councils were exchanged - Portmeirion pottery from Porthcawl Town Council and a carafe and glasses from its French counterpart.

Coun Davies thanked clerk Ceri Anderson for decorating the room used for the reception.

During the visit, the town council unveiled a new finger-post which is located outside the council offices in Victoria Avenue which points towards the French town and gives the distance in miles and kilometres - 433 miles and 697 kilometres.

Coun Alana Davies said that the finger post was very distinctive and she thanked the clerk for arranging it.

Mayor David Newton Williams said that it had been made by Nottage Forge and donated free of charge.

The council thanked the firm for its kind gesture.

Coun Chris Smart thanked Coun Davies, the mayor and everyone else from the council who had worked so hard to make the event a success.

"It was an excellent night and it was good to see so many councillors there!" he commented.

Coun Newton Williams said that the programme of entertainment on the night was excellent and the whole event was superb.

"It was a very enjoyable event which will not be forgotten," he added.

Helping primary pupils to step up to Cynffig Comprehensive

MOVING from primary to secondary school is often a daunting time for pupils, but Cynffig Comprehensive School in Bridgend has found a solution.

The school is 'virtually connecting' pupils from its school and the local feeder schools to allow future them to ask questions and dispel any worries or concerns before they attend.

The school's current students use the same interactive online learning environment to access anytime, anywhere learning.

Choosing to tailor the free open source learning

platform 'Moodle' with the help of Moodle Partner Synergy Learning www.synergy-learning.com, the school is benefiting from the latest technology, tailored to the specific needs of its staff and students.

A Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) allows pupils to log on and search resources, receive and complete homework and talk to teachers and peers via internal email.

The Comprehensive school is leading the way by introducing a free of charge, open source online learning environment for their school.

Open source software enables schools to use, change and improve the software with no restrictions.

From September, parents of Cynffig students will have usernames and passwords to access their own online space and keep track of their child's work and progress throughout the school year.

The biggest advantages of open source software such as Moodle are its flexibility and cost savings.

The software can be adapted to suit each school, from adding school colours and logo to selecting which functions they want for pupils.

It's in the BAG at the Berwyn!

ON its first day, the not-for-profit food co-op, initiated by the Berwyn Action Group (BAG) and the Ogmore Valley Forum of SHOUT, distributed 83 bags of vegetables, fruit and salad at £2.50 each.

Volunteers pack the bags and they are available for pre-paid collection on Friday mornings at the Berwyn Centre.

Town council NEWS IN BRIEF

Porthcawl Town Council has applied for funding to Bridgend County Borough Council's Strategic Tourism Events panel for a grant towards the cost of staging the Porthcawl Sea Festival and the Summer Musical Event.

The case will be put to the panel by Couns Chris Smart and Wendy Ingram and clerk Ceri Anderson.

BCBC's ecology officer Steve Moon is to be asked to look at an ancient hedgerow at the New Road allotments.

Clerk Ceri Anderson said that the hedge had been there for hundreds of years and residents have asked for it to be cut by professionals, rather than left to others to trim.

A decision will be taken after it has been assessed, to see if it is an

important hedgerow.

Porthcawl Civic Trust has agreed to pay £100 towards the cost of cleaning and refurbishing the Brogden family graves in Newton churchyard.

The project is being undertaken by the town council. The Brogdens built the harbour to export iron from the Maesteg ironworks.

A meeting is to take place between Porthcawl Town Council and the chamber of trade as part of an on-going series.

The next meeting will be hosted by the council, which is seeking a suitable venue.

AM's surgeries CARWYN JONES, Assembly Member for Bridgend, surgeries will be held on Friday, May 1, at: Pendre Community Hall (4pm-4.30pm); Coity Gilead Chapel Hall, (4.45pm-5.15pm); Brackla Community Centre (5.30pm-6pm); Coychurch Memorial Hall (6.15pm-6.45pm).

Ogmore MP THE Ogmore MP, Huw Irranca-Davies, will be holding a surgery in the Llynfi Valley during the afternoon of Friday, May 1.

The surgeries will be by appointment only. To make an appointment and find out further details, contact the MP's constituency office and advice centre on 01656 737777.

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OBITUARY: A TRIBUTE

THE death has been announced of Ray Evans, a founder member of the Porthcawl Lifeguard Club and the former landlord of the Ancient Briton public house in Newton.

He was one of four brothers – a quartet who averaged six foot six in

Ray Evans, popular host who made his mark in Porthcawl

height and 18 stone in weight – and as with brothers Ken, Mike and David, he played rugby to a high standard. He also loved the Porthcawl beaches, and was in his element as the host of his pub.

Ray was 66 when he

died on April 21, after a year-long fight with cancer, and his brother, Ken, told The GEM: "Ray will be fondly remembered as the landlord who ran 'The Brit' with his wife Dee and daughters Gaynor and Samantha.

"He kept a good pint but his true talent was socialising with his many customers."

Ken recalled: "On one occasion, a visitor got a little confused, thinking that Ray was a fellow holiday-maker who had booked the same two-week break!"

In his youth, Ray played rugby for Aberavon in their heyday, and was selected for a final senior Welsh trial at just 20. Later, when he joined the Army, he played for the Welsh Guards when they won the Army Cup.

Ken said: "Ray was influential in the development of Porthcawl RNLI and Porthcawl

Lifeguard Club. He helped build the life-guard building on Rhych Point that sadly burned down.

"When I say 'helped build' I mean that he both fundraised and was onsite laying bricks and labouring."

Ken added that the failure to rebuild the life-guard building, something that Ken blames on red tape, was a great disappointment to Ray.

Ray continued to fundraise for projects throughout his life, and travelled to Albania on a number of occasions, helping to build a community centre and sporting facilities in what was a desperately poor eastern European state.

Ken concluded: "Ray will be greatly missed by his wife and daughters, four lovely grandchildren, close family and so many friends."

The funeral will be on Tuesday, May 5, 1.45pm at Stella Maris Church,



RAY: A talented rugby player.

New Road, Porthcawl, followed by a service at Coychurch Crematorium, 3.15pm. Friends will be welcomed at the wake at the Hi-Tide, starting at 4.30pm.

Family flowers only, but donations (to Porthcawl RNLI) should be sent to Southlands Funeral Home, South Road, Porthcawl.



RAY: in his element as a popular pub landlord.

YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: **CLIVE MITCHELL**

1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ

TEL: 01656 725399

email: tyncoed1@yahoo.co.uk



School memories

BRYNMENYN

Primary School headteacher Mr I Thomas is setting up a series of meetings at the school at which it is hoped former pupils will come along and reminisce.

The school is investigating its history and that of Brynmynyn village itself.

If anyone has old photographs or historical documents which the school can borrow to copy, Mr I Thomas will be most grateful.

Each evening will have a special reference to the years the pupils attended, and the reunion meetings will be held between 4pm-8pm.

Monday, May 11 is for pupils who attended the school pre-1950 and May 12 is for pupils who were at the school between 1950 and 1960.

May 13 for those between 1960 and 1970 (also former staff and pupils from the Hearing Impaired Unit) and May 14 former pupils attending between 1970 to the present.

Guests are welcome for an opportunity to meet up again with old friends.

Head's appeal

MR M GRIFFITHS, the headteacher of Tynrhoe Primary School, is asking guardians of pupils to ensure that the school has their correct contact details in case of emergency or sickness.

If anyone has changed their mobile, home telephone number or moved from their former address, inform the school secretary Miss E Crowle.

Food co-op

BERWYN Action Group has set up a food co-op through which a member can buy fresh fruit, salads and vegetables at affordable prices on a weekly basis; it is supported by the rural regeneration unit and is a non-profit making organisation.

The bags are collected from the Berwyn Centre, Nantymoel between 10am-11am.

The co-op is organised by volunteers and welcomes additional help. Contact Carrie on 01656 840937.

Christian Aid THE week commencing May 10 has been designated as Christian Aid week.

Aberkenfig and district unit churches in support of this event will be organising a joint quiz, plus a 'call my wine bluff' evening at St John's church.

Aberkenfig on Thursday, May 14 at 7pm. All are welcome.

Mothers' Union THERE are 12 branches of the Mothers' Union in the Bridgend Deanery.

Two branches, Llansantffraid and Llangarw, congratulate Raema Gunton and Dorcas Heywood, who have become branch leaders for their respective areas.

Thanks go to former leaders Bette Wilson and Joy Whiting for their hard work over the years.

St David's Church, Wyndham EVERYONE is welcome to attend the Deanery Festival being held at the church on Tuesday, May 5 at 7pm.

Congratulations! Dr Jeffrey Jones has been awarded a research fellowship at the Henry Moore Institute in Leeds.

Two hundred names were nominated, but only three were awarded and Jeff was one.

The fellowship will give him access to the library, archives and all resources at the Institute,

while he completes a project examining the relationship between sculptures and pottery.

Jeff is a very versatile individual who has had books published on a range of subjects, such as ceramics and the history of Tondy Wesleyan Methodist Church.

Aberkenfig Retired Persons Club THE club's members recently welcomed four people from the SHOUT organisation – Mr D Rees, M/s Maureen Williams, Mr and Mrs Gareth Jones.

Mr Rees explained how the organisation operates, and discussed members' concerns in regard to the 'Meals on Wheels' services.

Mr Rees reassured them that the service may be updated in the near future and that clients will be receiving meals more in line with their personal preferences.

Mr and Mrs Jones gave a brief talk on the operation of the Gateway Valley Forum, which meets once a month at the Ynysawdre Community Centre, Bryn Road.

M/s Maureen Williams gave an insight into BAVO, the Bridgend volunteers organisation, which is based at 112-114, Commercial Street, Maesteg, CF34 9DL.

Maureen is also the development officer for SHOUT and can be contacted on 01656 810400.

The club meets at the Len Evans Centre, Heol Persondy, Aberkenfig every Wednesday between 1.45pm-4pm. Visitors are welcome.

For more information, phone Joyce/Tom on 01656 720823/720026.

Bridgend NFU ladies meet

THE Bridgend branch of the Ladies NFU, held their monthly meeting at Penllyn Village Hall on Tuesday, April 21.

The guest speaker for the evening was Mrs Barbara Forte, who gave an entertaining talk on her version of 'telling the tale'.

She also gave an insight into how she made teaching into fun for her schoolchildren.

The evening ended with tea and biscuits and the raffle was won by Mrs Sue Llewellyn.

On Tuesday, May 5, there will be the spring trip to Narberth and Tenby in Pembrokeshire, west Wales.

There are still a few seats available.

Hospice day celebrated in Bridgend and Porthcawl

FROM a 'Belly Dancing Party' to a sponsored slim, a huge variety of events will be taking place across Wales, including in Porthcawl and Bridgend, leading up to May 1, which is Ty Hafan Day.

Schools, community groups and individuals have come up with an amazing array of ideas to raise funds for the family hospice for young lives which provides care and support to children, young people and families who, in most cases, come from the many areas in which the events are being

held. Forty staff from Jehu Project Services in Bridgend are having a dress down day, while the Bluebell Group in Porthcawl are staging a 'Sounds Familiar' concert at All Saints Church.

"We are thrilled to have received over 200 registrations for our special fundraising day," said Lorraine Rees, from Ty Hafan.

"This year, being our 10th anniversary, is a special year for us and our families. During those 10 years, we have had children and young people from right across Wales come through our doors.

"We are proud to

have been able to make a difference to those families who have lived with the knowledge that they are going to lose their child before he or she reaches adulthood."

There is still time to take part in the fun. Just call Helen Young or Gaynor Taylor on 029 2067 2060 to receive a pack of ideas for your own event or visit www.tyhafan.org

Ty Hafan relies on the generosity of the public to raise over £2.5 million needed every year to help life-limited children, young people and their families make the most of the time they have left together.

'Unholy alliance forced home closure' says AM

A REGIONAL AM has hit out at an "unholy alliance" of Labour and Plaid Cymru for forcing through the closure of Troed y Ton residential care home, Kenfig Hill.

The decision taken by Bridgend's county borough council cabinet to close the home to make way for an Extra Care housing development was endorsed by the Health and Well being scrutiny committee after Plaid Cymru's Malcolm James voted with the Labour members of the committee. The voting was eight votes to six.

"The move was opposed by the Conservative and Liberal Democrat members of the committee. They argued that the issue should have been referred to the full council for a debate and vote to be held," said Tory AM Alun Cairns.

"Plaid campaigned at

the last Assembly elections on a slogan of Let's kick Labour into touch," he said.

"But they are now keeping them in office. In Bridgend, by voting with Labour, the Plaid councillor has given Labour its way and denied a proper debate in which all councillors could participate.

"It is a very sad day as Troed y Ton is a very highly regarded care home with dedicated staff.

"Kenfig Hill residents must be feeling doubly betrayed because their own councillor – Labour's Megan Inglesant – has ignored public opinion and voted with the Labour group."

Mr Cairns added that he had been refused permission by the council to visit the home to speak to residents and their families: "They are obviously running scared of allowing anyone to champion this cause. It's obvious that a decision was made at the very outset to close the home and no arguments will change that."

Berrell/Maher – land at Pen y Pant, Pant yr Awel, Ogmog Vale – various works to number of trees.
J Davies – 170 Highfields, Brackla, Bridgend – conservatory.
Mr A Kidger – 11 High Street, Maesteg – two storey extension to rear porch extension to front and raise roof level.
Mr AD Fox – 24 Woodstock Gardens, Pencoed – single and two storey extension to rear, new boundary walls and new vehicle access.
Mr GP Watson – 3 Lindsay

Close, Pencoed – single storey storm porch to side elevation.
Companion Care Services Ltd – Pet at Home, Unit 2, Bridgend Retail Park, Waterton, Bridgend – certificate of lawful use Class A1 with ancillary pet care and treatment facility.
Mr S Jenkins – 30 Bryncoch Road, Sarn, Bridgend – change of use from hairdressing salon to laundry service.
Mr N Windsor – Woodbine Cottage, Cefn Glas Road, Bridgend – re-roof existing house replace roof on extension and porch with pitch roof and

widen vehicular access.
Mr Christopher Payne – land north of 2 Pen y Bryn Cottage, Rhwceiliog, Pencoed – pole barn for hay/straw storage.
Mr J Hawkins – 5 Heol Glyn Pandry, Llangeinor, Bridgend – garden storage facility.
Mr C Tough – 1 Hendre Gardens, Pencoed – three-bedroom dormer bungalow with two single garages.
Miss Nicola Prescott – 45 Bridge Street, Kenfig Hill, Bridgend – change of use to tanning salon (stand up and wax down units) – spray tan.

BCBC Directorate reaches a high environmental standard

BRIDGEND County Borough Council's communities directorate has reached the prestigious Level 5 of the Green Dragon environmental standard.

The standard is divided over five levels, with

over 650 organisations within Wales registered to the Standard. Just 18 organisations are certified to Level 5.

The standard aims to improve resource efficiency, ensure legal compliance and increase awareness amongst staff of environmental issues.

It means that Bridgend County Borough Council

can now claim to be the leading local authority in Wales in terms of the development, implementation and operation of an environmental management system across its entire operations.

Coun John Spanswick, cabinet member for communities and the cabinet's environmental champion, commmited:

"Congratulations to the staff of the Communities directorate.

"The achievement of Level 5 is a real statement by Bridgend County Borough Council in terms of its commitment to reducing its impact upon the environment," he added.

Fun day highlights work of Porthcawl youth centre

GRIFFIN Park Youth Centre in Porthcawl hosted its first 'Fun Day' on Saturday, April 18.

Organised by Louise Brown, detached youth worker manager for Bridgend county youth service, the 'Fun Day' saw youth workers across the borough provide young people in Porthcawl with a free barbecue, a DJ set, free Indian head massages and art workshops.

The centre provides a drop-in facility for socially excluded young people, giving them information and providing activities to make them feel valued in their communities.

It offers counselling, sport and adventure projects, including the 'Positive Futures' initiative, and the 'moving forward project crèche', which provides support for young mums and lone parents.

Louise Brown said: "Holding a fun day gives the public a chance to see what goes on here, and hopefully, more young people will now come forward to use the centre."

Attended by Mayor David Newton-Williams and wife Gaynor, Madeleine Moon MP, County Borough Mayor Coun Cleone Westwood, and Coun Chris Smart, the event ran from 12pm until 4pm, and saw South Wales Police, the Samaritans, and Eco Learning providing fun information stalls for visiting youngsters.

PCSO Holly Prosser explained: "As well as giving young people around Porthcawl a treat, today has really been about showcasing the great work the youth centre has achieved. We regularly hold youth surgeries here, and are lucky enough to see first hand the brilliant work that takes place."

PCSO Prosser also organised a raffle for the event, liaising with local businesses to get prizes donated. All profits from the ticket sales went to the centre to help with upcoming projects.

Louise Brown added: "We wanted to hold a fun day to celebrate all the successful collaborations that have taken place between young people and youth workers from Griffin Park so far."

"Today has been a fantastic example of the Porthcawl community coming together to help our youth."

Pictures by KEITH E MORGAN



ABOVE: Kitchen facilities being demonstrated to Coun. Gaynor Newton-Williams, Mayoress of Porthcawl, and Coun David Jones by young Chloe and Debbie Heart.



ABOVE: PCSO Sharyn Philemon and Porthcawl Mayor Coun David Newton-Williams get ready to try an Indian head massage.



Nathan Sheen was advising young people on creating a mural.



ABOVE: PCSO Holly Prosser, Richard Williams, and PCSO Sharyn Philemon were on the police stall.

RIGHT: Bridgend Samaritans director Darren Matthews with Madeleine Moon MP.



Mothers urged to make the change for Real Nappy Week

A PORTHCRAWL-based charity is urging mothers to stop using disposable nappies – and go back to 'the real thing'.

Using cloth nappies can cut down on the waste currently being sent to landfill, and campaigners point out that this will improve the environment, and also cut down on charges that councils have to pay to send excess tonnage to the tip.

To combat the credit crunch and help protect the environment, charity Sustainable Wales (SW) and Porthcawl-based community co-operative SUSSED are joining forces to offer free

advice and a range of cheaper washable nappies.

The SW real nappy development officer, Sian Dando, will be available in SUSSED, 92 John Street, Porthcawl, between 10am and 1.30pm on Tuesday, April 28 and Thursday, April 30, to talk to all those interested in greener lifestyles.

SUSSED will also be offering, for a limited period, at least half-price packs of perfectly good second-hand cotton nappies, to help families make real savings.

Louise Mathias, SUSSED's new project co-ordinator, said: "At a time when many families are looking for extra ways to save money, our 'Real Nappy Week

Reuse Range' is an ideal time to start reaping the benefits.

"There's no need to boil wash or tumble dry these nappies - they can be put in the washing machine and hung on the line, saving electricity - just as my Mum used to do."

Sian Dando said, "Switching from disposable to buying a set of new real nappies can help save parents up to £500 a year. Real nappies have come a long way since towelling and safety pins.

"They're shaped and fasten with poppers and fasteners, are available in bright colours and designs including animal prints, hearts, and even the Welsh flag!"

Pupils re-enact religious event

ON the last Thursday of term before Easter, pupils at St John's School, re-enacted the Stations of the Cross.

"We had planned to use the school grounds, but the weather was against us. Fortunately, we were able to make use of our large hall to stage the event which involved music and drama," said a spokeswoman.

"Father Jonathan joined us for the morning and helped make this special event fitting to the time of year."



ABOVE: Pupils re-enacting the Last Supper scene.

Cowboys, cowgirls and curry at Kenfig



ABOVE:
Cryotherapy benefits from the Cowboys and Cowgirls night.

£1,265 raised for cancer charity

THE clubhouse at Kenfig Hill RFC recently hosted a Cowboys and Curry night which raised £1,265 towards supporting the Cryotherapy treatment for prostate cancer campaign.

Cowboys and Cowgirls were entertained by a Country and Western act, Red Canyon Duo, and laughed with comedian Bobby Prentice, before finishing the night with DJ Alwyn Heath.

Pictured (left) presenting the cheque is chairman Howard Phillips and the organisers Ray Giles and Clive Phillips.

Andy Thomas and Ray Murray received the donation on behalf of the GLAZE Charity Trust.



ABOVE:
'Desperado - why don't you come to your senses?'

'Smile please, Doc, I'm your last patient'

WHEN popular GP Geoff Tinkler summoned his final patient to his con-

sulting room on the day he retired, he had quite a surprise.

For at 4.30pm last

Friday (April 24) in walked GEM photographer Keith E Morgan, complete with trusty camera, to record the occasion.

Dr Tinkler, who officially packs away his stethoscope today, (Thursday) moved to Porthcawl in 1973 as a newly-qualified doctor and became the senior partner in the practice on the retirement of Dr Colin Williams in April 2004.

Even though Dr Tinkler is retiring from general practice, he is not going to allow his training and experience to be lost.



Dr Tinkler taking the blood pressure of his 'last' patient.
Photographs by KEITH E MORGAN



He will be involved part-time in the administration aspects of the ABM (Abertawe Bro Morgannwg) University NHS Trust at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend.

Firstly, however, he will be taking a well-earned holiday with his wife Christine in the Scilly Islands.

All the staff at The GEM join his patients in wishing them both the very best of health and happiness in the future.

ABOVE:
Dr Tinkler with three of the practice staff who wished him all the very best for his retirement. Left to right: Dr Ann Burtonwood, Porthcawl Group Practice administration manager, Ann Bendall, senior receptionist, and Nicola Willis, office manager. Both Nicola and Ann have worked with Dr Tinkler since 1982, when the surgery was at Victoria Avenue. They are the only two original staff remaining.

INSIGHT INTO THE CULTURE OF INDIA

NEWS FROM SKER WI

SKER WI was the host institute for the Glan-y-mor link group meeting, held at Awel-y-mor centre, Porthcawl, on April 22.

The meeting was attended by members from Kenfig, Newton, Nottage and Sker WIs and chaired by the president of Sker WI, Mrs Nina Charlesworth.

The speaker for the evening, Mrs Shika Ghose, assisted by her husband, gave a brief insight into the geography and customs of

India. Mrs Ghose talked about her collection of saris, using members from the four institutes to model some of her colourful and exotic items.

As in all fashion shows, the last model wore an Indian traditional sari. Members thoroughly enjoyed the display of these wonderful garments.

The entertainment for the evening was provided by members of Sker WI, who gave their rendition of Old Time

Music Hall entertainment.

They were accompanied by musical maestro Mike Boyles, and the director and producer of the show was Irene Boyles.

The costumes worn by members added to the entertainment and the audience was invited to join in when some of the popular old songs were sung.

BG

NEWS IN BRIEF FROM AROUND THE AREA

BRIDGEND
Trading Standards officers have conducted their latest exercise with young volunteers to test the diligence of retailers selling age-restricted products, and in particular tobacco products.

Of the 10 borough premises visited, there were no illegal sales. The council's Deputy Leader, Coun David Sage, who's cabinet portfolio includes Trading Standards, said: "This is a pleasing result and credit must be given to retailers who are taking this issue seriously and to Council officers who are working so hard to tackle this."

BRIDGEND County Borough Council's Licensing & Registration Team has completed the annual renewal of residents' only parking permits in the county borough.

Three hundred permits have been issued for the schemes currently in operation.

THE council's licensing and registration team has completed the annual re-registration of local lotteries. Whether for fundraising or just for fun, lotteries are a form of gambling and the Licensing Team offers advice and guidance on how small organisations can comply with the law.

Nearly 180 local groups are currently registered to hold lotteries to fundraise for worthwhile causes in the county borough.

COUNCIL enforcement officers are carrying out checks of sea-side arcades to help protect of children and vulnerable persons from the dangers of gambling.

While there are no age restrictions on the playing of low payout machines, some premises are permitted to provide a combination of low and higher stake machines on the premises.

Officers will be checking that these are properly cordoned off and supervised and that no persons under the

age of 18 have access to these areas.

THE council's trading standards department has taken part in a regional survey looking at the amount of trans-fats in foods.

There are no legal limits, but the Food Standards Agency (FSA) recommends that no more than two per cent of the total energy value of a food is from trans-fats.

The department took a small range of samples that had been produced by local food manufacturers and found that all were satisfactory.

Head of Bridgend Trading Standards Lee Jones said: "Although these are positive results, they are only a snapshot and form part of ongoing work to highlight to the public the need to reduce intake of such fats."

For more information, contact the communications team on (01656) 643217, 643663 or 643648.
www.bridgend.gov.uk, or
Email: talktous@bridgend.gov.uk.

Cadets try out Merlin helicopter

CADETS from Porthcawl's 2347 Squadron recently went to RAF Benson for a day out flying in a Merlin helicopter. No other cadets this year have achieved this.

The squadron meets every Monday and Friday night from 7pm-9pm at Forty Acre site, Porthcawl. All are welcome from age-13 upwards. Contact civilian secretary Susan Daniel at susan.daniel@tiscali.co.uk or telephone 01656 788643 for more details.

PACT meetings

PACT surgeries for Litchard and Pendre wards will be held next month as follows;

Litchard school, Thursday, May 7, 2.30pm - 4pm, and Princess of Wales Hospital foyer, alongside community councillor Carolyn Webster, Tuesday, May 19, at 9.15am.

Contact PCSO Heather Dobbs, on 07805 301478, for further details.

Porthcawl Air Training Cadets are presented with their awards



Sgt Joshua Daniel is pictured with Flt Lt Michelle Goodman, the first woman to be awarded the RAF's highest honour - the Distinguished Flying Cross.

THE cadets from 2347 Air Training Corps Porthcawl have been presented with awards at Neath Athletic Stadium.

Under-17 events: Sgt Joshua Daniel, second in high jump; Cadet Josh Williams, first in both 100 metres and long jump; Sgt Kris Marke, second in 800metres.

Under-15 events: Cadet Hannah Skidmore first in long jump and second in shot putt.

Senior women's events: Warrant Officer Jess Merridew, third in high jump.



ABOVE:
The cadets from 2347 squadron Porthcawl.

Local historian's gifts will honour memory of Kenfig's Ted Davies CBE



ABOVE: Keith Morgan is flanked by D Allan Jones, chairman of the Kenfig Corporation Trust, and Mrs Katherine FH Walters, clerk to the trust.

THE late Ted Davies, CBE, will be remembered at the headquarters of the Kenfig Corporation Trust after local historian Keith E Morgan donated a series of framed photographs.

Mr Davies was a long-time chairman of the trust, as well as being prominent in local politics, and in recording the history of Kenfig.

Mr Morgan made the presentation in the banquet hall upstairs in the Prince of Wales public house in Ton Kenfig.

This setting has acquired an extra historical significance since the landlord, Gareth Maund, removed the old false ceiling and restored the original beams.

More than 40 guests were at the presentation, and Keith Morgan said that Ted Davies had been a friend, and that hanging the pictures in the hall would honour



ABOVE: Keith E Morgan presents the 12 Knights Scroll to Gareth Maund, the Landlord of the Prince of Wales.

his memory.

A framed set of six showed Ted receiving his CBE from the Prince of Wales, while a more personal memento, a caricature commissioned by the trust when Mr Davies retired, was presented to Ted's son, Derek, and his daughter-in-law, Liz.

A third presentation was made, a framed photograph showing the 'Twelve Knights Scroll' which will also hang in the banquet hall.

The chairman of the

trust, Coun Allan Jones, gave his thanks to Mr Morgan, and pointed out that Ted Davies had made a contribution to the Kenfig Corporation Trust, and to local history.

The former Bridgend MP, Win Griffiths, told The GEM that Ted Davies had been both a mentor and a good friend when Mr Griffiths became involved in politics in the borough.

Allan Jones also offered his condolences to Keith Morgan on the recent death of his wife Malvina, saying that she had also been a good friend of Ted Davies.

Indeed, she had presented the original caricature to Ted when he retired.

GEM NOTE: Malvina Morgan (nee



ABOVE: Keith Morgan presents a caricature of Ted Davies to Derek and Liz Davies, Ted's son and daughter-in-law.

Angell) will be remembered at a memorial concert at St Theodore's Church, Kenfig Hill, on Saturday, May 16, at 7pm.

The Kenfig Hill Male Choir will perform, with special guest, Porthcawl concert pianist, Faye Gossedge.

Tickets are £4, with all proceeds going to Y Bwthyn Newydd Cancer Hospital and St Theodore's Church.

They are available from Keith E Morgan on 01656 788150, or Mrs Margaret Phillips (01656 741585).

Bridgend town councillor is granted bail

A BRIDGEND town councillor, charged with rape and supplying and possessing cocaine, has been granted bail by a Crown Court judge.

Huw Elystan Davies, aged 37, of Ewenny Road, Bridgend was allowed an extension of his bail until June 1 during a hearing at Cardiff Crown Court.

Coun Davies is currently on suspension from his teaching position at Brynteg Comprehensive School.

A spokesman for Bridgend County Borough Council said: "In line with school policy, the teacher was suspended in November 2008, pending the results of the police investigation.

"We are now awaiting the outcome of the criminal proceedings. It is inappropriate for us to comment further at this stage."

WE welcome your news, views, sports reports and other items of local interest.

Please send them to
The GEM at
ggem@internet-today.co.uk

Who wants to build what and where in Bridgend?

Mr B O'Connell, **Eyre Court House, Newton** – works to five trees including canopy reduction, felling, remove branches. Specsavers, **36 Adare Street, Bridgend** – illuminated fascia and projecting signs. Mr G Nottage, **8 Pentre Howell, Pencoed** – increase height of boundary to front of property from 0.7m 1.8m using fencing panels with lattice effect top. Redrow Homes (South Wales) Ltd, **Dol Gorwell site, North Cornelly** – amend conditions 18 and 19 of 03938 – not to build footbridge from Heol Y Parc to Marlas Farm Estate.

Mrs I Jenkins, **22 Maesteg Road, Maesteg** – loft conversion for domestic use as additional bedroom. Ms C Crowley-Davies, **Glen View, Porthcawl Road, South Cornelly** – two storey extension to rear.

Mrs K Wyatt, **70 Oaklands Road, Bridgend** – single storey extension to rear to replace existing conservatory, toilet and utility.

Mr G Tainton, **Gwalia House, Duffryn Road, Maesteg** – conversion of former stores to three-bedroom holiday accommodation. Persimmon Homes Wales Ltd, **land at Caeu Gleision, Laleston** – erection of 10 dwellings, including conservatories, shared surface access, enclosures, landscaping and associated works. Mr A Mahoney, **18 Esgair Y Maes, Broadlands** – convert garage into a living room. Mr A Butler, **61 Alma Road, Maesteg** – first floor extension to rear of property.

Mr and Mrs Williams, **118 Heol West Plas, Coity** – extension and new garage. Mr and Mrs J Fentham, **61 Woodlands Park, Kenfig Hill** – replacement detached garage. Sheppard Pharmacies, **Pharmacy, Penybont Road, Pencoed** – new shopfront including two traditional timber pilasters.

Compute (Bridgend) Ltd, **side of 6 Wyndham Street, Bridgend** – gates at side of 6 Wyndham Street.

Bridgend College, **Pencoed Campus, Pencoed** – reduce parking associated with

new building for construction department. Mrs M Gregory, **70 Beach Road, Porthcawl** – retrospective application for increase in height of garden wall to front.

Mr C Caddy, **Mountain View, Heol Llan, Coity** – two storey extension to north side of property to create fourth bedroom with en-suite and ground floor reception. Bridgend College (Weston House), **Cowbridge Road, Cowbridge** – residential extension to provide eight student bedrooms with toilet, showers, dining room and kitchen.

Sustainable Construction Ltd, **land adjoining 95 Cwrt Coed Parc, Maesteg** – two detached dwellings.

Mr P Lewis, **25 Glyn Y Mel, Pencoed** – first floor extension over existing ground floor extension.

Mr ID Williams, **26 Bryn Road, Coychurch** – two storey and single storey extension and garage conversion.

Mr W Evans, **25 Penyrallt Avenue, Litchard** – two-storey extension to side. Mrs E Sumner, **Somerset Lodge,**

Severn Road, Porthcawl – conversion of existing single garage and games room to granny flat. Charles Church Development Ltd, **land at Caeu Gleision Farm, Laleston** – erect two houses, including garages, shared surface access, enclosures, landscaping.

Mr P Williams, **35 Cefn Coed, Cefn Glas** – uPVC conservatory. BCBC Communities Directorate, **Coychurch Crematorium, Heol Simonstone, Coychurch** – replace heat pumps to control temperatures in chapel, including external ducting, replace windows for access to units.

Mr J Edwards, **54 Easterly Close, Brackla** – detached garage at bottom of garden.

Mr D Rees, **94 Heol y Mynydd, Sarn** – alterations and extension to dwelling.

Mr D Hope, **7 Maes Bryn, Cefn Glas** – single storey rear extension.

1,600 jobs are lost in the borough

THE scale of job losses in Bridgend over the past six months has been revealed in a briefing paper prepared for councillors.

The report shows that 1,270 jobs have been lost, with a further 198 on the verge of going and another 99 at risk. Forty have also been relocated. This brings the total to more than 1,600.

In addition, jobs just outside the county boundary at places like Borg Warner, Bosch, L'Oreal and Serious Foods will also impact on the borough as many local people are employed by these firms.

In all, they are shedding almost 800 people – some of whom will live in Bridgend.

The jobs that have been lost from Bridgend itself since October 2008 includes 540 from Budelpack in Maesteg, formerly Cofi and Revlon; 170 from Harman Becker with a

further 30 to go; 100 from the closure of Woolworths; 25 from the old Valewood furniture factory; 12 jobs from W H Smiths News operation; 30 jobs from GE carpentry in Maesteg; 20 jobs from various shops in Porthcawl.

Kimball is closing its factory over the next year and 160 jobs will go.

However, a few green shoots may be visible, with 20 new jobs created at Airborne Systems and 30 per month at the Lloyds TSB call centre.

A number of new firms have also set up in Bridgend over the past year including Buy as you view, South Wales Web Solutions and Plumbing Trade Supplies. No figures for the number of jobs they have created were available.

Bridgend's cabinet has set up a working group which includes the area's AMs and MPs.



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Unit 20, Vale Business Park, Llandow. Tel. 01446 771999

Pioneering apprentices collect Assembly awards

TEN learners from Barry College subsidiary, the Vale of Glamorgan Training Association (VGTA), have become the first to qualify in a new Assembly apprenticeship scheme.

The VGTA was chosen as sole training provider for a pilot group of learners on new Foundation Modern Apprenticeships (FMAs).

"FMAs are a flexible programme of training for learners aged 16 and above. Designed by industry, they aim to demonstrate knowledge and the practical ability to work within a given



ABOVE: First Minister Rhodri Morgan with the VGTA's Welsh Assembly FMA learners.

sector and meet its

needs," a college

spokesperson explained.

"Of the 10 learners, eight studied a Business Administration FMA and two completed Customer Service FMAs. As part

of the qualification framework they had to complete a Level 2 NVQ, Technical Certificate Level 2 and key skills in Communication Level 2 and Application of Number at Level 1."

The learners were awarded certificates by First Minister Rhodri Morgan at the Swalec Stadium in Sophia Gardens, Cardiff, at an event organised by the Welsh Assembly Government. The event was also attended by the FMA learners families and line managers and VGTA staff.

Police look for owner of bag

VALE police seek the owner of a black canvas bag with white polka dots, containing a purse with cash, found on Saturday, March 14, in the play area of Old Penarthians rugby ground.

The owner should contact Barbara Morris at Barry Police station on 01446 731615.

The Vale backs 'White Ribbon' campaign

A GLOBAL campaign to eliminate violence against women is being supported by the Safer Vale Partnership.

Promoted by Barry Women's Aid and Wales' rugby captain Ryan Jones, the 'White Ribbon Campaign' (WRC) has been adopted worldwide and is recognised by the United Nations.

It also links in with the work undertaken by WOMANKIND Worldwide, which helps women in developing countries - silenced or isolated by harmful traditions, conflict, violence and intimidation - to

have a say in their family, community and country.

The first WRC was launched by a group of men in Canada, after the brutal mass shooting of 14 female students at the University of Montreal.

Vale of Glamorgan domestic abuse co-ordinator Charlotte Porter, said:

"The White Ribbon Campaign is particularly symbolic as it involves men working to eliminate men's violence against women.

"It just shows that real men do not condone or perpetrate violence against women, they condemn it and rightly so. Real men wear white rib-



Wales rugby captain Ryan Jones

bons and real men do not hurt women either emotionally or physically."

Margam concert

GIFTED senior pupils from Bridgend county borough will be performing a concert at Margam Abbey on Friday, May 8, at 7.30pm, compered by Jeffrey Francis, chairman and trustee of the Margam Abbey Music Foundation.

For tickets telephone Jeff Ryan, Bridgend County Borough Council's music co-ordinator on 01656 642658/07961 192408 (during office hours).

Appeal after a car is damaged

POLICE are appealing for witnesses after a black Porsche Cayman had its windscreen cracked and paintwork scratched while parked in Norton car park near Ogmores-by-Sea, between 10.30am-11.30am, on April 13.

Contact PC Tom Warren at Llantwit Major Police Station on 01656 869447, or anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Cyclist injured

Police are investigating a road traffic collision that occurred at 2.40pm on Friday, April 17 at the junction of Dyfan Rd and Barry Rd, Barry.

A 16-year-old female pedal cyclist was in collision with a silver Peugeot 307.

The pedal cyclist received serious injuries and was taken to the University Hospital of Wales.

South Wales Police are appealing to anyone who witnessed the collision to contact the Eastern Roads Policing Unit on 029 20222111 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

WELSH CHILDREN'S CHAMPION'S VISIT TO LOCAL CHARITY

WELSH homeless charity Llamau welcomed Keith Towler, Children's Commissioner for Wales, to their Learning 4 Life project in Cardiff last week.

Learning 4 Life provides informal education in Bridgend, the Vale and elsewhere for young people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

Many of those who attend the project have chaotic lifestyles and may have dropped out of school at an early age.

Despite the proven success of the Cardiff-based project in increasing young people's confidence and self esteem, and encouraging them back into learning or training, Learning 4 Life

does not receive any statutory funding.

Andrew Beck, who attends Learning 4 Life in Barry, said:

"I've been coming to Learning 4 Life for three years off and on. It gives you good experience and good life skills.

"I'm great at cooking now; last night I made chicken curry for 12 people".

The Commissioner commented: "The young people who are involved

with Learning 4 Life obviously get so much out of it. As a society, we have a responsibility to ensure that all young people have the learning and training opportunities they need.

"We should be supporting organisations like Llamau to do more of this kind of work, not letting them struggle financially in the hope that they may just be able to continue with the project next year."

Maendy YFC set for County Rally Day

THE countdown is on for May 9 and the Annual Rally Day of Glamorgan Young Farmers.

Everyone is invited to Pencoe College

between 9.30am-5.30pm for a day of competitions, stalls and displays.

Various competitions will be taking place, from craft exhibits to singing and dancing, tractor handling and woodwork, not to mention the tug of war finale to round off the day. There is also a rally dance in the evening - tickets are available at Rally Day only.

For further information, contact the county

office on 01656 864488.

Maendy are getting ready for the big day with weekly gatherings and practices, ensuring members are geared up for some top competition.

Some members are off to the National YFC AGM in Blackpool for the May bank holiday weekend, which always promises to be entertaining.

HL

Penarth Computer Club

Bad computer habits must be broken - and here's how!

WE are all creatures of habit and they are hard to break - the 'force of habit' is so powerful that it is worthwhile making sure that these habits are useful ones in order for them to make life easier.

It is possible to acquire a habit after as few as two or three identical actions. For computer users, habits can be a problem.

When starting out, we struggle to discover how to do something; which keys to press to achieve what we want. When we find something that works, we are quite pleased with the result and repeat it several times. We have a habit. When we become more proficient with the machine, we maintain the habit, in spite of becoming aware that there are always at least three or more ways of doing anything.

It is unlikely that our habit has struck upon the most efficient way of working, yet we persevere to our detriment.

One of the most frequently-neglected improvements is to learn some keyboard shortcuts. These involve using the keyboard instead of the mouse when typing, because it is often easier than grasping the mouse; finding where the pointer is on screen; steering it to the appropriate button and effecting a change.

A simple example: saving a document from time to time as it is being typed. (This should be done as a matter of course. Anyone who doesn't do it has not yet lost a significant amount of typing when a computer has crashed!).

The options are: Stop typing. Find the mouse; find the pointer; click on File on the taskbar; Click on Save on the drop-down menu.

Move hand back to the keyboard. Continue typing.

OR - Stop typing. Find the mouse; find the pointer; point at the save button on the taskbar and click. Move hand back to the keyboard. Continue typing.

OR - Type: Alt, F, S.

The last one is the keyboard shortcut and your hand has not left the keyboard. It is quicker and much less effort. It is, therefore, more likely to be used frequently and as a result work is less likely to be lost. Anyone not using this shortcut is recommended to start developing the habit now.

Similarly, the keyboard can be used to cut and paste. There is no need to backspace to delete a line or paragraph character by character or use the mouse to select some text. The arrow keys will move the cursor and holding down the Shift key will select the text as the cursor moves.

Tip: this method will enable you to start and/or finish the selection in the middle of a word. Up and down arrows will work as will Page Up and Page Down.

Then, holding down [ctrl+x] together will cut the selected text. Move the cursor to where you want the text to be and press [ctrl+v] and the text will be pasted. [ctrl+c] will copy text.

If a considerable amount of text is to be moved, it is perhaps safer to copy and paste and then delete the original text - just in case your finger slips!

Typing [ctrl+b] will switch on bold type; [ctrl+u] will underline and [ctrl+i] will italicise text. These are 'toggles' and typing them again will cancel the change. They can be used in combination.

In all cases it means that typing can continue without bothering the mouse. All these are time-sav-

ing habits to encourage.

Unfortunately, some useful little features are used so infrequently that they never get to become a habit. For these we have to resign ourselves to digging around to discover their secrets again. We could, of course, make a note somewhere to save the effort, but it can be just as difficult to find the note. (Sound familiar?)

For example, if a preferred view of picture folders is by means of the Filmstrip option, it is irritating if, for no apparent reason, the option is not given in the view menu.

This can arise even if the folder is a sub-folder within the 'My Pictures' folder. To have the option included in the view menu, you must highlight the folder; right-click on it and select 'Properties'.

In the dialogue box select the 'Customise' tab. Under What kind of folder do you want? select 'Photo Album' or 'Pictures' and click 'Apply'. (There are options tailored to music and video files as well.) There is a box to tick if there are sub-folders that also need the option.

Even here there is a quirk. If the folder is important enough to have lots of sub-folders, the properties dialogue box might not have a Customise tab. In that case try folders on the next level down.

The club next meets on May 12 at 7.30pm in All Saints Lesser Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth. Kevin will tell how to make use of Restore Points and how to undelete or find lost files.

Visitors and new members are welcome. For more information, telephone 029 2070 8439.

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Father who horsewhipped his children now faces jail

A STRICT father is facing jail for horsewhipping his three young children – to “stop them going off the rails”.

At Cardiff Crown Court last week, he admitted using a riding crop on his children aged between seven and 12 to make them behave.

The father (52) denied three charges of cruelty, claiming he had whipped them “for their own good”.

But a jury found him

guilty and he was warned that he will be jailed.

Judge Stephen Hopkins QC told the father: “You are a controlling and cruel man. The fact that you consider it appropriate to hit children with a riding crop, albeit on a riding demonstrates you are a cruel man.”

The qualified engineer was arrested when his seven-year-old son dialled 999 after an incident at the family home in the Vale of Glamorgan.

One of his children

told Cardiff Crown Court when his father hit him it felt “like his hand was on fire” and it always left a mark.

The father-of-three said: “I used it as a deterrent. I’m trying to instil discipline into the children. I don’t wish for them to go off the rails.”

“I’m actively trying to be a good father, to bring them up knowing right and wrong.”

“I’m trying to instil discipline, but children don’t like that – they like to run free from parental control. The riding crop is a deterrent. It

would be used only on the palm of the hand, never to cause injury. I don’t hit them hard. I am extremely careful.”

“I’ve never used it when I’ve lost my temper or when I’ve been angry or enraged.”

When asked if he thought using the riding crop was acceptable, he said: “I suppose I have to bend to modern society and say I shouldn’t use it.”

The father, who cannot be named, to protect the identity of his children, was found guilty of three charges of cruelty to a person under 16.

Judge Hopkins added that by pleading not guilty and making the children give evidence against him, he had effectively called them liars.

The man was also found guilty of causing actual bodily harm and common assault on his wife, who is 20 years his junior.

The judge asked for a report on the future contact between the man and his children before sentencing him at Cardiff Crown Court next month.

Petticoat Lane
THE Penarth
Horticultural Society is holding its annual Petticoat Lane event on Saturday, May 2, at the Paget Rooms, Penarth, from 10am-12pm.

There will be plant stalls, cakes and preserve stalls, bric-a-brac and tombola.

The latest cases in the Vale Magistrates Court

EMMA MYFANW CURNOW (28) of Shackleton Close, St Athan, admitted permitting production or attempting production of cannabis resin, a Class B drug, on February 10.

She was fined £320 and told to pay prosecution costs of £60.
DAVID ERNIST HINTON (54) of Westbourne Road, Penarth, admitted drink driving in the town on April 4.

A breath test showed a reading of 78 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath.

He was banned from driving for 18 months, fined £100 and told to pay £60 prosecution costs.

The ban can be reduced by four months if a course is completed.

SIMON PETER MARTYN (41) of Church Road, Barry, admitted drink driving in the town on April 4.

Magistrates heard a reading showed 59 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath.

He was banned from driving for 12 months, fined £100 and told to pay £60 prosecution costs.

If a course is completed, the ban can be reduced by three months.

DAVID MARK ANTONY YOUNG (21) of Shakespeare Avenue, Penarth, admitted damaging a window belonging to the Railway

Hotel.

He was ordered to pay compensation of £343.

DANIELLE JADE CARMELA

BEACHAM (30) of Holmes Street, Barry, admitted removing the whole or part of a dog’s tail for a purpose other than for the animal’s

medical treatment.

She was given a conditional discharge for 24 months and told to pay court costs of £260.

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The 2007/8 Academic Year concluded with the best ever grades at A level results. Nearly a third of pupils who sat A levels exams achieved three or more A grades whilst an impressive 73% of all grades were A or B. Pride of place once again went to the Maths and Science Departments where 74% of the grades were A or B grades. There were also excellent GCSE results where over 89% of grades were C or better, and 95% of pupils achieved five or more GCSE passes.

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Putting empty shops to use

IN your recent article about Llantwit and Cowbridge becoming 'transition towns', Rob MGhee is quoted as saying that we need to "relearn" old skills like planting vegetables and fruit trees, making clothes, woodworking, bee-keeping and making marmalade.

I hope Rob will be pleased to learn that none of these skills have been lost! Look at the allotments by the Fire Station in Llantwit, where people are growing enough fruit and veg to fill Tesco at Culverhouse Cross (though they never will!)

Or come along to the Stitch 'n' Bitch on Monday night from 7pm-9pm at Il Vesuvio in Llantwit Major, where you can join a group of people aged from 20 to 69 busy knitting and crocheting all manner of garments, some of whom had never lifted a needle before (*for more info see <http://llmtstitchn-bitch.wordpress.com/>*).

Or go to any of the country markets at the Llantwit Hall, where he will find homemade marmalade galore, as well as lots of other goodies. I'm told that there are beekeepers locally, too, and I know of plenty of woodworking enthusiasts.

However, it can be quite difficult to pass the skills on, even though there are plenty of peo-

ple who want to learn and plenty of people who are happy to share the knowledge.

When we started the Stitch 'n' Bitch, the biggest challenge we had was finding somewhere to meet every week in the middle of town.

I keep looking at the empty shops in the centre of Llantwit and thinking about what a brilliant venue they would make for these kinds of activity.

I know that there are people who want to start quilting, and share the pleasures of hooking rugs.

There are artists and craftspeople in the town who would like to exhibit their work, people who would like to teach classes, and others who would like to learn something new.

A place like that would bring people into the town centre, and could only complement the businesses there already.

It would provide cheap or free activities just when they are needed most, with recession looming. Wouldn't it be better than empty shops?

We could spend the rest of our lives applying for grants, but it would be much better fun to put the effort into organising activities and exhibitions!

So if you have somewhere suitable - in Llantwit - please could you get in touch via our website or email lzmilward@yahoo.com?

Liz Hayes,
Llantwit Major

THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters should include an address and contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (in certain circumstances), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters brief and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

'Society is bringing out the Victor Meldrew in me'

MY wife and I retired recently and moved into Llantwit Major - it is a pleasant town in which to live with good facilities - shops, train and bus station, library and leisure centre.

It is rural, with good walks, a labyrinth of quiet roads for cycling, and within easy reach of a beach and some dramatic coastline.

So why am I grumpy? It is because of a measurable lack of social responsibility that I observe but feel powerless to have any impact upon.

I watched a woman throw something under her car the other day and drive away. It was a small piece of rubbish, but if such action was extrapolated across the populous, our town would be an unpleasant place in which to live.

The woman and I did not make eye contact, otherwise I might have remonstrated.

Recently, a family ahead of me allowed their dog to defecate on the pavement. I asked them if they would clean it up. "Yes" they said, but they were going to get a bag as they had run out... It was still there three days later.

A great example for the children.

I must not get tedious, but I estimate that 50 per cent of drivers ignore the 30mph warning on the Llantwit/Boverton road, driving while using a mobile 'phone is commonplace, and I am often overtaken in 30mph areas.

I often flash my lights or hoot and I guess that I am putting myself at some risk in doing this. These things make me mad and my wife wisely counsels me to consider my blood pressure.

Notice that I have not mentioned teenagers - the common target for adult disdain. Of course they are not without fault, but the above anti-social activities are carried out by a wide spectrum of ages.

It troubles me as a *laissez-faire* attitude can only encourage a decline in society's standards, but it seems so difficult to find a way of making an effective stand.

So like poor old Victor Meldrew, I can only get hot under the collar, internalise my anger as best I can, and outwardly appear to be the grumpy old man that I probably am.

Dr John Devonshire, Llantwit Major

Rugby writers are mauled!

HAVING just seen the report of the Cowbridge v Pontyclun game (The GEM April 16) and knowing that your excellent journal is read in many of the border Vale villages outside Cowbridge, I thought someone

should congratulate your two correspondents on their perceptive analysis.

It was, of course, 'luck' and 'refereeing advantages' that has allowed Pontyclun to register near 100 points against Cowbridge in the two games this season.

Moreover, it has certainly been good fortune that Pontyclun have now

become the champions of their division with two games still in hand.

The average score of 35 points, the best in the WRU leagues, must have something to do with favourable referees.

Amazingly, that 'lucky streak' seems to have permeated into the youth team which will also win its division and into good performances of the junior, women's and mini sections.

Even some of the 'back room' guys have been lucky to be recognised with national awards. How lucky can one club get?

But, hey, wasn't it Jack Nicklaus who said "the more I practise, the luckier I get?"

Surely Pontyclun's success couldn't be due to sheer hard work, commitment, dedication and a bit of pride in a community club?

It's tough work running a rugby club these days and everyone in local rugby would want Cowbridge to get back on track and just maybe, a bit of objective feedback from impartial reporters might help.

If anyone in the Vale wants to 'try their luck' at Pontyclun rugby, they will be welcomed with open arms!

John David, Pontyclun
FOOTNOTE: Given the scoreline (59 - 3 to Pontyclun) the writers' lighthearted comments were obviously not intended to be taken seriously...

That said, The GEM extends its warmest congratulations to Pontyclun RFC on a truly magnificent season.

Final footnote: Our golf correspondent says it was Gary Player who made that famous quote, not Jack Nicklaus!

Headstones: need for a sensible approach to the safety issues

IREFER to the very interesting BBC Panorama programme, April 20, which examined why the deadly serious matter of health and safety has become a laughing stock, and why it has strayed from its original aims.

The programme considered the expensive and insensitive action some burial authorities have taken to deal with the threat from potentially unsafe headstones.

When I was a Barry Town councillor, I expressed concern that the council's proposals to deal with the so-called 'killer' headstones needed more thought before councillors made deci-

sions. I made the point that the council's approach may be an over-reaction and needed to be sensible and sensitive.

After watching the Panorama report by Quentin Letts last week, I now feel my caution has been vindicated.

Our elected representatives should resist unhelpful pressure and a culture which seems to compel people to take more than reasonably practicable measures when dealing with possible safety matters.

Now that the Health & Safety Executive has withdrawn its guidance (not statutory as some claimed), the town council may well take the opportunity to review the way it deals with unsafe gravestones.

Dennis Harkus, Barry



ABOVE: Mr Harkus' hat - is it safe from toppling headstones?

Put the climate challenge before defence college

I WAS profoundly dismayed to read of John Smith MP hailing the proposed Defence Technical College at St Athan as a potential recession-buster.

I think this displays our local MP's failure to think through and appreciate the full seriousness of the present economic crises and its implications for Britain's future

place in world politics and economics.

Certainly, the economy needs investment to 'get things going' but since we shall face difficult and stringent times during the coming decades with the burden of a hefty national debt, we need to choose the right investment for our situation.

We are not going to be strong enough to be a military power of any consequence - so why resort to investing in the military when there is so much to be done elsewhere?

As things are now, for 'the largest single investment in the history of Wales' to be a defence technical college seems to me to be a misdirection of resources when needs in other directions are many and urgent.

We need to move into new technologies and innovations - facing the challenge of climate change.

We need to improve public transport, build new homes and improve existing ones, advance the design of cars and other vehicles.

So much to do in so many areas, and I wish our elected representatives would direct their efforts towards these more sensible and more appropriate 'recession busters'.

Margaret Evans,
Llancafarn

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Old photographs show Rest Bay in a new light

HISTORIC old photographs have come into the possession of Porthcawl Museum, and they show a previously unseen side to Rest Bay in Porthcawl.

Dating back to the early 1920s, the pictures will surprise motoring enthusiasts who think of Pendine Sands in west Wales as a prime destination for racing cars and speed record attempts.

The photographs show the South Wales Auto Club holding a speed trial on June 29, 1922. On a very windy day, a ramp was laid so that the cars could get down to the beach.

A measured course (one mile) was marked out from Rest Bay to Pink Bay and back again.

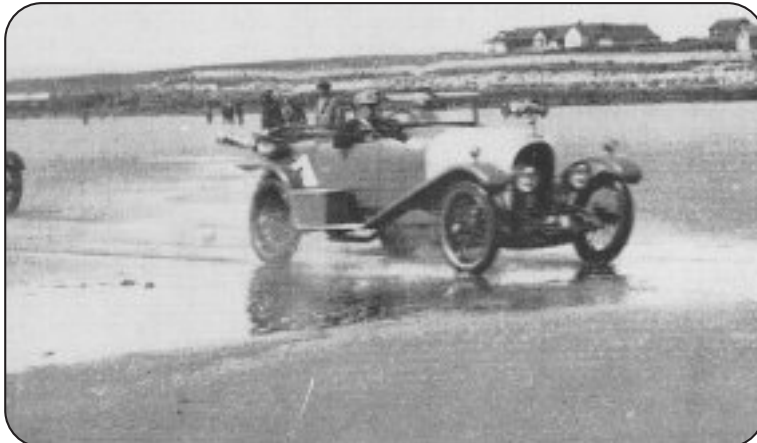
The thought of cars racing on this particular beach will come as a surprise to many people who walk there now.

The time between the tide coming in and out is not that long, and the wet sand, although firm, tends to be almost 'corrugated' in texture – something that would rattle the suspension, particularly in view of the old-style tyres, which are little more than large bicycle ones!

The museum's information indicates that there were races staged as early as 1912, and Rest Bay must have been a little-known attraction then, because the directions include an Ordnance Survey map reference (SS 801 781).

The photographs on this page will form the basis of a planned exhibition at Porthcawl Museum, but the volunteers who run the museum are keen to get as much extra information as possible.

Anyone with family recollections, press cuttings, photographs, or any other memorabilia should contact John David of Porthcawl Museum on 01656 786636.



New Welsh law brings local families into play

It was good to be able to report to the Cardiff and Vale Parents Federation conference this week that we are developing a new Welsh law (The Children and Families Measure) introduced to the Assembly on March 2, which will bring in new entitlements for children and young people for play opportunities.

The title of the conference held on Monday in Sophia Gardens was We Can Play, which is so important for the parents and carers of disabled children and young people.

In fact, the federation was set up by parents and carers of people with learning disabilities in Cardiff and the Vale and it has a strong voice influencing government at all levels.

Play is fundamental to every child's emotional, physical and social development, and it is vital that every chance is given to provide play and leisure opportunities for disabled children and young people.

This principle was embraced by the Children and Young People's Partnerships, set up in each local authority area in Wales. Since 2003, the Welsh Assembly Government has awarded

£23 million to these Partnerships to fund play opportunities as part of the Cymorth Grant.

Over two years ago, we announced that £1 million of this allocation had to be spent on play for disabled children. This funding has continued with a new package this year of support of £2.75 million for play for disabled children, short break services for children with complex disabilities, and a new benefit awareness campaign for families with disabled children.

We have worked closely with the 'Disabled Children Matter' campaign to bring in these new funding opportunities, and the feedback from the parents and carers at the conference showed that this investment was vital, but also more can be done within existing resources to change the way we provide our services.

For example, leisure centres could be more flexible about opening up their facilities for disabled children and young people. Access to soft play and holiday play schemes could be geared more effectively to the wide range of needs and abilities of our young people.

This can be addressed now by local authorities but the new Welsh law we are introducing will help ensure that these issues will be fully addressed.

The proposals include

new duties on local authorities to require them to formally assess the 'sufficiency' of play opportunities in their area, both in terms of quality and quantity and to use that assessment to improve provision.

The views of children, young people and their families will be taken into account in developing this assessment, including the views and needs of disabled children and young people.

The new Welsh law is part of our plan to take action to tackle child poverty and to improve the life chances of our most disadvantaged children in Wales.

It will also include a requirement to fund free childcare for two-year-olds in our Flying Start areas in Wales.

Childcare provision at the pioneering Gibbonsdown children's centre is partly funded through Flying Start provision, and we want to safeguard that for the future.

Like the foundation phase for our 3-7 year olds, our Flying Start programme for 0-3 year olds has the concept of 'learning through play' at the heart of its provision. It encourages parents and

ASSEMBLY NOTES



by Jane Hutt AM
(Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills)

carers to be involved in play activities with their children as a key part of parenting.

Wales was the first country in the UK to develop a play policy and play implementation plan, which has led us to introduce these new policies, funds and laws about play.

Children and young people involved in the recent pioneering BBC Wales series said they wanted to have more play, leisure, sporting and outdoor activities.

Our Funky Dragon and schools councils told the UN Committee in Geneva that play and tackling bullying were at the top of their priorities.

We are responding to these calls and we hope this will lead to a new era for play opportunities for all children and young people in Wales.



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Clerk retiring

WE have been informed that the clerk to the Llanccarfan Community Council, Mrs Joann Scott-Quelch, has decided to retire in July.

Joan has been the residents of Llanccarfan and district in her capacity as clerk for more than 21 years.

The community councillors have expressed their regret

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

LLANBETHERY & LLANCCARFAN
Your community correspondents are
Sam & Patsie Smith on
(01446) 751448

that she has decided to retire, but have thanked her for her dedicated service, and for the conscientious way she has conducted her duties on behalf of the local community.

We wish Joann much happiness and good health in her retirement and are sure she will be

prepared to offer the benefit of her knowledge and experience to her successor as clerk to the council.

Applications to become clerk to the council are now being invited and will be decided shortly.

May Day walk

THE Llanccarfan Society's May Day walk this year is at the Amelia Trust – an easy walk is involved and commences at 11am.

Meet at the Trust (situated off Five Mile Lane) at 10.30am for tea and coffee. Dogs (on lead at all times) are allowed.

This is an attractive walk round the trust grounds with the opportunity to view the animals and various country pursuits and exhibitions. Refreshments are available at the site café afterwards.

Llanccarfan Society

THE society's annual general meeting will be held on Friday, May 1, at the Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm. There will be a complimentary glass of wine and nibbles.

NEWS FROM BARRY & DISTRICT BRANCH OF THE SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL**A case of déjà vu for the new president!**

AT last year's AGM, the incoming president of Soroptimist International Barry and District, Marie Mantle, suggested members might appreciate a 'quieter' year having had a very busy time leading up to the club's celebration of its 40th anniversary.

However, when the programme action officer, Judith Lewis, read out her report, it was obvious, that even in a 'quiet' year, members still achieve an incredible amount.

Projects included: the quarterly survey of Jackson's Bay for the Marine Conservation Society, donating items, packing and sending parcels to troops in Afghanistan, providing over 1,000 knitted Easter chicks to support Velindre Hospital, donating items to the local Women's Refuge, arranging monthly events at a local residential home, and supporting the Christmas tree festival in St Augustine's

Church, Penarth.

Members also support various recycling initiatives by collecting unwanted jewellery for a regional project – Licking Lassa Fever, as well as stamps, spectacles and ink cartridges. Not bad for a quiet year!

In her president's report, Marie also referred to the considerable amount of money that had been raised – approximately £2,000 to her chosen charity, the Stroke Association and £150 to the Salvation Army.

The club continues to make donations to its annual commitments, that include the support of an orphan in India, the Welsh Heritage schools initiative and various Soroptimist charities.

In her outgoing remarks, Marie said that the completion of her presidential year was not an end, merely a transition to a new and rewarding chapter on her journey in Soroptimism.

The incoming president, Mrs Iris Hopkins, lives in Dinas Powys, is the former headmistress of Dinas Powys Infants School, and is well

known in the area.

Iris said she has a sense of déjà vu, as she has first been president of the club 17 years ago. Iris also served as regional president in 1997-98.

However, despite her experience, Iris said she was still learning. She referred to the fact that the club had grown considerably and built on the strong foundations begun by our founder members 40 years ago. How fortunate we are to still have some of those founder members with us, committed to the ideals of Soroptimism.

Iris said presidents are supposed to have a 'theme' and she felt the quotation on the cover of her programme for the year summed up her hopes:

"Coming together is the beginning; Being together is progress; Thinking together is unity; Working together is success."

The president announced her nominated charity would be ValePlus, an organisation with bases in Barry and Llantwit Major that provides educational, social and vocational opportu-



ABOVE (left to right) president elect, Judith Lewis, president Iris Hopkins and immediate past president, Mrs Marie Mantle.

nities for adults with learning and related disabilities.

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THIEVES TARGET SKI SHOP

POLICE in Cowbridge are investigating the theft of 10 Oakley shirts from a local shop.

Two men, in their 30s or 40s, entered the Coyote ski and surf shop in North Road at about 1pm last Friday April 24) and while one engaged the assistant in conversation, the second removed the polo

type shirts from a rail and left the shop.

The shirts sell for £30 each and were new in that day.

One of the men is said to have untidy fair hair and wore a white top.

The shop is run by Nicola and Simon, but they did not want to comment on the theft.

Sgt Paul Revers, Vale Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant, urged shopkeepers to be vigilant.

"They should be on their guard and report any incidents promptly. If anyone is offered these shirts, they should contact police or Crimestoppers."

If you have information about this incident, contact Sgt Revers at Cowbridge Police Station on 01656-869450, or anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Wedding unites Rhoose families

ST DONATS Arts Centre was the setting for the wedding of Rhoose couple Hayley Pearce, a primary school teacher, and William Rees.

The bride's parents are Ian and June Pearce of Rhoose. The groom's parents are Gwynne and Barbara Rees, also of Rhoose. The bridesmaids

were Emily Rees and Anna Hooper and the flower girl was Freya Perry.

Best man was Mathew Coombes and the ushers were Ashley Pearce and Richard Rees.

The reception was held at St Donats for 70 guests. The couple later left for their honeymoon in New York.

Picture by David Edwards Photography.



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COWBRIDGE NEWS IN BRIEF

NEW cupboards provided in the kitchen at the Lesser Hall have gone down a storm with members of the WRVS Luncheon Club, Coun Gwen Baty told town councillors.

THE need to upgrade the mayor's parlour at Cowbridge Town Hall will be included in the rolling refurbishment programme for the building. This was decided by

the Town Hall committee. A GRANT of £100 has been made by the town council to the Cowbridge (Gateway) Monday Club to help with running costs.

COWBRIDGE Town Council is to give £100 to the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society towards the cost of running its show at Bwlth Wells, where Glamorgan will be the featured coun-

ty this year.

COWBRIDGE in Bloom is to receive £225 from the town council towards the cost of placing flowers in the town.

THE bench in Old Hall gardens, which was vandalised, is to be replaced at a cost of £292. The bench will be purchased by the town council and will be fitted by the Vale Council at its own expense.

THE non-domestic rates for Cowbridge Town Hall amounts to £11,491 in this financial year, councillors were told.

LANDOWNERS adjoining the old Roman road near Cowbridge are currently being identified by the Vale Council so that growth can be cut back and pedestrian access restored.

Members learn about the tricks of the floral trade

MEMBERS had long anticipated a flower arranging demonstration by Alison Bentley, and on April 2 she did not disappoint.

With the assistance of fellow florist Jan, and in a remarkably short time, six arrangements, completely different in character and content, were produced.

They also entertained with tales of triumphs and disasters, passing on many hints and tricks of the trade.

There was a sudden rush for raffle tickets when Alison announced that, to make up for having had to cancel a previous scheduled demonstration, all the arrangements were being donated to the branch raffle.

NEWS FROM WENVOE WI

The delighted winners were four members and two visitors.

When leaving, many lamented the fact that there was no flower arranging class in Wenvoe.

At the next meeting in the community centre at 7.30pm on May 7, members will be discussing

resolutions, followed by a beetle drive. New/non-members welcome.

The members are back at the community centre on May 9, for the spring table top sale (10.30am-12noon).

Admission £1, includes tea/coffee and biscuits.

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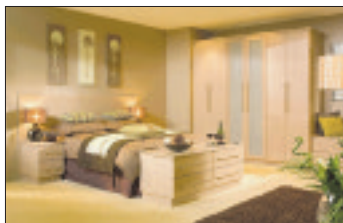


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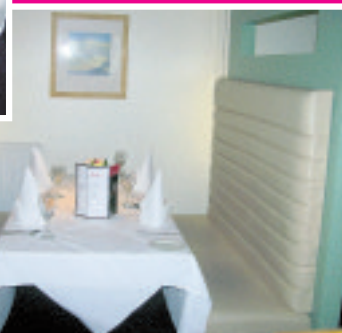
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MUGHAL

Emperor of Cowbridge Renowned Indian Cuisine Restaurant and Take-away Menu



New-look Mughal Emperor builds on 16 years of continual refinement

THE Mughal Emperor at Stalling Down, just outside Cowbridge, is showing off a gleaming new look after an extensive refurbishment – but the smart new setting is the only change that lovers of Indian food can expect.

After all, the restaurant has been there for 16 years now, ever since Mr Anhar Miah opened the business with three family members – and no establishment survives and prospers for that length of time without providing a consistently high-quality dining experience.

It is still very much a family business, with a few more joining the staff over that 16 years, and the menu has been subtly refined and developed over that period – keeping the Mughal Emperor firmly in the quality bracket of Indian dining.

Mr Miah told The GEM that he was proud of the number of familiar faces that made the trip to Cowbridge on a regular basis – quite a number from Swansea and Cardiff – with many couples from the early days now bringing teenage children for a real family occasion.

He said: "This refurbishment is a 'thank you' to our customers."

"We have always aimed to serve the best food that we could, and they have recognised that by returning to us. They deserve to eat in smart, comfortable surroundings, and I think this new look means they will get just that."

Mr Miah is also passionate about maintaining his kitchen's reputation for quality. All the ingredients, whether meat, fish or vegetables are fresh. Frozen food of any sort is simply not part of the culinary process.

Standing on the shining new terrace at the Mughal, looking out over the rolling downs, before stepping into the

restaurant, you appreciate the setting, and the layout of the interior makes for a relaxed meal – just the right balance, with tables close enough to provide atmosphere, but spaced far enough apart to make the meal an intimate one.

The ethos of the business has remained unchanged over those 16 years. Mr Miah sees no need for special offers. The policy of providing high-quality food at a reasonable price has served him well.

The Mughal is riding out the credit crunch because of this and, as he says, if two people can eat great food for £25, then they soon discover that one restaurant's special offer is Mr Miah's normal price!

Of course, as with society itself, there have been changes over the last 16 years. The old stereotype about people drinking nothing but lager with an Indian was never that true, but it is long gone today.

The Mughal Emperor keeps a good range of wines, because so many customers these days prefer wine with their meal, and the staff are only too happy to suggest an appropriate choice if the diner is unsure.

Even the lager has changed, because that is now the authentic Indian brew, rather than the mass-produced UK option.

The demand for Indian food is still high, and the reputation of the Mughal Emperor means that it is busy. Mr Miah says that booking is "essential".

Those regular customers know just what to expect – and new ones will not be disappointed!

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Glamorgan GEM

Food for Thought



The Swan Inn (Porthcawl) takes the gastropub route

A VILLAGE pub in Nottage, Porthcawl, is re-branding itself as a 'gastropub' and has made a statement of intent by going into partnership with an award-winning chef.

A brand new menu is being unveiled at The Swan, under the

auspices of Mark Thomas and Julie Jenkins – and Joe Jones, the winner of the 'Welsh Young Chef of the Year' in 2008.

In fact, the public house is moving in a new direction, with a major emphasis on local produce and local suppliers.

Mark Thomas told The GEM: "We are aiming to build personal relationships

with as many suppliers as possible, so that we know where all the food comes from".

He feels that there is a demand from diners to see their favourite restaurants supporting the local economy.

That applies to the drinking side of the pub as well, because real ales will be featured under the new team, with a particular relationship forged

with brewers from around south Wales, including Newmans from Caerphilly.

In fact, the pub is hosting a four-day beer festival this weekend (May 1-4), to give patrons a chance to see the future.

On the restaurant side, young Joe comes to The Swan having worked at The Coast, which won its share of awards in its time in Porthcawl, and also at The Star Inn, in Treoeas.

Joe is as enthusiastic as his partners in planning a menu featuring local Welsh beef, lamb, or fish.

In fact, he can be found in the morning on the rocks on the shoreline in Porthcawl, collecting samphire – something that goes well with fish in particular.

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ARE you a great cook?

Do you love dinner parties?

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The successful Channel 4 show *Come Dine With Me* is coming to The Vale of Glamorgan and surrounding areas as part of the new prime time series.

Channel 4 is looking for people over 18 years of age with a passion for cooking who want to demonstrate their skills.

Over four days, four strangers from different walks of life will take turns to host the perfect dinner party for each other.

At the end of the week, the most impressive host who has scored the highest points will win a £1,000 cash prize.

Series producer Genevieve Welch said: "We're sure that there are plenty of fantastic cooks who would throw a terrific night in the Vale of Glamorgan area."

"We'd love to hear from them and give them a chance to take part in the show."

She continued: "This is your chance to create the perfect dining experience. You will enjoy three

nights dining out and a chance to win the £1,000 prize!

"We will be filming in the Vale of Glamorgan area in June, so apply right now."

If you or anyone you know would like to take part, call ASAP and leave your name, location and contact details on: 0871 2003939; or email: emma.hayes@itv.com

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MAIN DISHES:

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THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters should include an address and contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (in certain circumstances), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters brief and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

'THE TRAINING COLLEGE IS NOT A RECESSION-BUSTER'

JOHAN SMITH MP's annual report as a wrap-around in The GEM (April 23) gives his own words, leaving no excuse of misquoting or taking out of context.

So he actually believes "five per cent of the UK's energy needs" could be produced by a Severn Barrage from Lavernock Point. The figure in the tidal options report is five per cent of UK electricity and only one per cent of UK energy needs.

The difference is significant, as Mr Smith's government has signed up to reducing energy use by 20 per cent by 2020, so 20 times the Severn Barrage, and delivered sooner.

While the plans for doing this are sketchy, it clearly includes reducing traffic and car use, implying John Smith's promotion of an M4 link road contradicts that energy target.

The MP still proclaims £12 billion as the cost of the military technical training college. Yet at the recent exhibitions, Metrix gave the total investment cost as £700 million. The rest is running costs, staff salaries and profits for 30 years and covers sites other than St Athan.

We expect our MP to understand the PFI funding mechanism; also to recognise that PFI schemes have often been excessively costly and examine whether this one would be any different.

The £700 million on constructing the St Athan college and housing is still a tidy sum, but little different from the current £650 million St Davids-2 development in Cardiff.

It could help maintain building jobs through the recession (if that lasts through 2011), but is far from the claimed "recession-buster".

The quoted 20,000 students per year is another

inflated figure. The plans cater for a transient population of maximum 3,000 trainees, on various courses of lengths from three weeks to 18 months. The 3,000 shows the college is under a third the size of the Treforest campus of the University of Glamorgan.

It's worrying that the MP fails to grasp the basic numbers that show the Technical College (one-time 'Training Academy') is no big deal.

Rather than a 'recession buster', it's one of Labour's PFI-privatisation dodges for government spending beyond our means that have contributed to the recession, and make it a clear target for austerity cuts.

Max Wallis,
Barry & Vale Friends of the Earth

Questions over airport link road

IT was fascinating to learn of the difficulties experienced by Mr Knill (GEM, April 23) in obtaining details of the airport link road survey carried out by the local MP.

He is not alone in having to wait months and then receiving minimal information.

John Smith MP stated that he had overwhelming support for a £100 million road to the airport. A residents' group waited months for even a copy of a blank survey.

This raises many questions. I wrote to him last year asking for

more details. For instance, who conducted the survey? Was it carried out by professionals, or did he use his staff or Labour councillors?

Was it a scientific survey, free of bias? What areas were asked? What were the options? Were people aware of the financial costs?

From that day to this there has been no reply.

If he wishes to use any survey to back up his case for a £100 million road, he needs to present all the evidence.

In the absence of factual information, his case is collapsing.

Conservatives 'gag' residents

THE third Rhose Point report (GEM article, April 21) was presented at last week's scrutiny committee for 'endorsement' before going to cabinet – therefore making a total mockery of the scrutiny role to 'call in' and question cabinet decisions.

The late arrival of the Independent member meant the balance of power favoured the Conservative group.

A Rhose Point resident wanted to speak, but was refused permission to do so.

Rhose Point residents are currently responsible and liable for the entire infrastructure on Rhose Point, so not allowing a resident to speak was disgraceful.

The Plaid chairman did have the grace to apologise to the 'gagged' resident.

The usual 'barbed comment' was made against a 'handful' of residents blamed for taking up council time and resources over the years – totally ignoring the fact that these residents vigorously lobbied the council to collect security money from the developers of £1.5 million to protect them from financial infrastructure costs, should they go bust.

What was feared and predicted has come to be.

Officers now want to invoke sweeping powers for the council (via the taxpayers) to pick up the cost of officer incompetence.

Before doing so, the council needs to gain signif-

icant land holdings on Rhose Point. On the one hand, an easy task because Cofton's administrators are only too keen to offload the 'nasty bits' and associated huge liabilities.

The difficulty is that after 13 years dealing with the Section 106 Land Transfers signed in 1996, the council is yet to define the legal land boundaries!

The council also wants support from Welsh Water but Welsh Water has given surface water rebates to residents, so is under no legal or moral duty to assist the council in sorting out its self-inflicted mess.

The Conservatives also voted against the Labour motion for a recorded vote being made – so clearly were not prepared to 'stand up and be counted' – therefore making a total mockery of the 'openness and transparency' of the planning system.

Karen Gallimore, Barry

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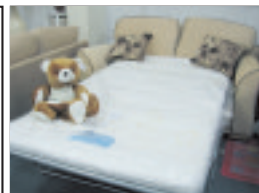


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THE SAFER VALE PARTNERSHIP

The Safer Vale Partnership is committed to creating a safer environment, in which people can live, work and visit, free from crime and disorder and the fear of crime.

Members of the Partnership are representative from the statutory, voluntary sectors, businesses and community groups. The Vale of Glamorgan Council, South Wales Police, the Local Health Board, South Wales Probation Service, the Vale Centre for Voluntary Services and South Wales Fire Service are all key partners.

The Partnership, through Home Office and Welsh Assembly Government funding is able to support local crime and disorder reduction projects.

PACT

The Safer Vale Partnership is committed to improving your neighbourhood. There are already excellent partnership relationships with voluntary and charitable organisations such as Neighbourhood Watch, youth groups and resident groups.

It is also important that prominent members of the community such as leaders of resident associations, voluntary groups, faith groups and councillors are also involved.

For PACT to succeed, it is essential for members of the community to be involved to ensure that the real issues affecting the community are resolved.

PACT meeting is only one form of engagement. There are other ways to have your say. This could be by attending surgeries, or Community Council and Consultative meetings, by speaking face to face with an officer, telephone, letter or by visiting www.safervale.co.uk.

The goals of a PACT meeting are to:

Provide a forum for local residents to meet their community representatives and to prioritise neighbourhood problems and disorder in their area.

Identify issues that are capable of being resolved within an agreed timescale.

To identify problem-solving plans to resolve these issues and mobilise the relevant services to deliver solutions.

PACT gives members of the public the opportunity to influence and be involved in problem solving with your neighbourhood.

Dealing with unresolved priorities

A 'traffic-light' system has been adopted to highlight unresolved priorities. When a priority is identified it is coded 'green'. If the priority has not been resolved by the next meeting it will be coded 'amber'. If the priority has not been resolved by the third meeting, it will be coded 'red' and passed to the Community Engagement Group for discussion/ action.

Community Engagement Group

The Community Engagement Group was established in the beginning of 2007 and meets bi-monthly and reports to the Safer Vale Strategic Partnership. It is made up of representatives of the local

process to develop government policy, or build community awareness and understanding.



Involving the community through a range of mechanisms to ensure that issues and concerns are understood and considered as part of the decision-making process.

Collaborating with the community by developing partnerships to formulate options and provide recommendations.

and planned youth focused events e.g. Friday night youth club and school holiday/after school sports and music based events.

A breakfast club for school children to provide them with a subsidised healthy breakfast.

A luncheon club providing a subsidised healthy lunch with activities for older people and unemployed local people.

A FAN (Friends and Neighbours) club for socially isolated people.

A community cafe for local residents.

The main aims of the Coast Café are to reduce crime and anti social behaviour in the area and for the community to have greater confidence in agencies dealing with offenders, increased feeling of safety and bring the community closer together.

The Community Engagement Group has also funded three other projects this year:

Barry Island Car Park

The car park will be segregated into kerbed individual bay areas with traffic speed restriction devices constructed between bays. Additional signage introduced. This will provide a safer area and reduce the longstanding anti social behaviour in Barry Island Car Park. Residents of Barry Island will benefit from this and calls to police resources should be reduced.

Youth PACT Training

– The Community Engagement Group has funded the Youth PACT Training to help young people integrate with the PACT process. This will help:-

Young people will have a better understanding of PACT process and how it operates in their local area.

Young people will improve their self-esteem, communication skills and commitment skills.

Young people will feel empowered as they would have had an input in the development and running of youth PACT meetings.

Greater partnership working will be achieved by the delivery of this training.

The Youth PACT committees provide citizenship benefits, a sense of community involvement and ownership for young people. The project is important in the creation of a safer environment for the future.

The future

Crime is low in the Vale of Glamorgan, however to keep pushing it out of the Vale the Safer Vale Partnership welcomes your help and input. For further information please visit our website

www.safervale.co.uk

Matthew Davies of Safer Vale with Paul Green and his son Ellis at the Safer Vale Road Show in Penarth



authority, police, and voluntary sector. The group has overall responsibility for the PACT process in the Vale of Glamorgan and will deal with all complaints relating to PACT, its structure and management.

The aim of the Community Engagement Group are:-

Informing the community of policy directions of the government.

Consulting the community as part of a

Empowering the community to make decisions and to implement and manage change.

One of the many successes of the Community Engagement Group

A community cafe which will be called "Coast Café", located in coastlands Church on Tennyson Road will be developed as a result of funding from The Community Engagement Group (Safer Vale Partnership).

The funding will be used for the refurbishment of existing premises to meet required standards and develop the café and purchase Café equipment. The funding will also be used for course materials, refurbishment of bathroom facilities, disabled toilet and baby changing facilities.

The Coast Café will provide services to all members of the local community, with a particular focus on young people, older people and the unemployed. The Coast Café will provide a venue for a range of community initiatives. These will include:

A social skills course providing budgeting, shopping and cooking skills to young people leaving care, in partnership with the vale's leaving care team.

A How to Drug Proof Your Kids Course in partnership with Colcot Primary School and Bryn Hafren.

A youth venue for a range of current



Pictured at King Square (from left) Stacey Evans (Safer Vale partnership); Ray Behrens (Vice chair of Neighbourhood Watch) and Peter Arthur (Chair of Neighbourhood Watch)

Out and About with The GEM

CROWE AND AFFLECK STAR IN AN INTELLIGENT THRILLER

HAVING seemingly had the world at his feet nine years ago, Ben Affleck soon began a slow decline, poor film choices (*Pearl Harbour*, *Gigli*) and his relationship with Jennifer Lopez led to Affleck becoming practically ostracised by the film community.

However, beginning with his support turn in *Hollywoodland*, Affleck has redeemed himself in the eyes of Hollywood, his directorial debut, *Gone Baby Gone*, earning excellent reviews, and this latest role in front of the camera sees him as part of a powerful ensemble cast.

In *State of Play* (adapted from the BBC series of the same name), Affleck plays congressman Stephen Collins, who finds himself in the news when his mistress is murdered.

With the murder being investigated by Cal McCaffrey (Russell Crowe), a reporter who is a friend of Collins, the pair soon find themselves embroiled in something deeper than a

murder case, with loyalties becoming increasingly frayed.

State of Play is yet another example of film studios raiding existing materials for inspiration; however, when the results are as gripping as this, you don't begrudge them their lack of originality.

Teeming with a cast of superb quality, and directed with economical dexterity, this is the sort of film you would love to see more of in multiplexes, rather than the brash blockbusters.

Transposing the action from the TV series, London to Washington works well, upping the layers of political intrigue and heightening the tensions and the stakes for the characters; and given the quality of the TV series, the casting here is all-important.

Thankfully, those tasked with bringing the characters from the small screen to the big screen are more than adept at the task.

For Russell Crowe, it's another eminently watchable performance from the actor, who projects the character of McCaffrey in a low-key manner that has typified

his recent work. His character is a reporter straight out of the old-school of journalism, pounding the streets and looking for leads and information, and has no time for the modern machinations of the media world. Indeed, the moment Helen Mirren's editor declares that the paper's new owners are more interested in salacious gossip (and the sales that will ensue from it) than actual hard news will resonate with anyone who is concerned about the national press's current obsession with celebrity and shock-horror stories.

Crowe's performance is a joy to watch, bringing to the fore the conflict between his personal and professional ideals. He wants to help his old friend out of the political mess he's got himself into, but how does that affect his journalistic integrity? It is a notion that the screenplay, and Crowe's turn, subtly poses throughout.

Acting opposite, Ben Affleck is stoic throughout, showcasing a slow-burning intensity and a desire to clear his name of any wrongdoing. He brings a degree of nous to the role (and if any-

one knows what it's like to be vilified in his chosen field for making the wrong choices it's him). However, his turn is very much behind in the pecking order, offering valuable, if somewhat undistinguished, support.

Most impressive is Rachel McAdams who plays an online blogger for Cal's newspaper, and whose supposed lack of journalistic integrity is pounced upon by Cal.

Their relationship is a vital cog to the story, with him teaching her the mechanics of journalism. Their chemistry, shorn of the usual romantic interest, works well, with the actress more than capable here of matching Crowe's impressive turn.

In the meantime, strong support from the likes of Mirren, Robin Wright-Penn and Jason Bateman add a high degree of class to the cast.

The script is a similarly classy proposition, maintaining the thriller

elements, while also introducing the political games played by those in power, the power of the press, and the morality of those involved.

Keeping the story uncoiling slowly maintains the tension, but also makes you question who can and cannot be trusted, the layers of intrigue building.

With a background in documentary, Kevin Macdonald's direction is sparing yet stylish, turning Washington into a shadowy world of shady deals and shadier characters.

Maintaining the narrative thrust throughout, Macdonald wastes no time with anything that doesn't bear some relevance to the material, while his handling of the starry cast is superb.

When your main fault with the film is that the central relationship between Affleck and Crowe doesn't sit quite right, it speaks highly of the work on screen, and rightly so.

State of Play is a

SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

thriller that is both intelligent and engaging, and will grip you from start to finish.

VERDICT - A taut and compelling work, *State of Play* is an excellent film that keeps you absorbed in the story and characters for the whole of its running time.

Superb performances, in particular from Crowe, Mirren and McAdams, and wonderful direction make this a film worth seeking out. **Recommended.**

WHAT'S ON IN BRIEF

Vale AM's surgery

VALE AM Jane Hutt will be holding a constituency surgery tomorrow (May 1), between 4pm-6pm, at her constituency office, 115 High Street, Barry. No appointments are necessary.

Cowbridge coffee

THE Mayor and Mayoress of Cowbridge with Llanblethian invite the public to join them in the mayor's parlour at the town hall on Saturday, May 2, for a charity coffee morning (10.30am-1pm). Cup of coffee with slice of cake, £2.

Castelland surgery

THE Labour Vale and town councillors for Castelland ward, Chris Elmore, Pamela Drake and Karl Kuhnell will hold their monthly

advice surgery this Saturday (May 2), between 10.30am-12pm, at the Drop-In Centre, 3 Dunlin Court, Thompson Street Estate, Barry. No appointment is necessary.

Contact Chris Elmore on 07867 506116 for further details.

Dyspraxia support

THE next monthly meeting of Vale Dyspraxia Support Group will be held at Barry Hospital, at 7.30pm, on Monday, May 3.

The group helps children with dyspraxia and their parents with information, support and awareness raising.

It works with schools and is piloting a project using laptops to help children with dyspraxia.

Stamp competition

ROYAL MAIL celebrates the men who invented the machines and built the roads, railways and canals that put Britain at the vanguard of the Industrial Revolution - and readers of The Glamorgan GEM can win a set of the prestigious stamps in our regular Royal Mail competition.

Pioneers of the Industrial Revolution stamps feature the portraits of eight pioneers and an example of their contribution to the Industrial Revolution.

TV science expert Adam Hart-Davis, who also wrote a special presentation pack which accompanies the issue, helped launch the stamps.

Mr Hart-Davis said: "Two hundred and fifty years ago, a few brilliant individuals unleashed innovative technologies to provide the intellectual driving force which propelled Britain into the Industrial Revolution".

To enter the competition, all you have to do is answer the following question:

Which revolution is the subject of the stamps?

A) Industrial. B) French. C) Haitian.

Answers on a postcard marked 'Stamp Competition', to The Glamorgan GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7EL. Closing date: May 7.

The judge's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

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Final countdown to a choir's annual concert

SCHEDULED for Saturday, May 16, Cowbridge Male Voice Choir's 36th annual concert in Cowbridge Leisure Centre is almost upon us.

This year's guests will be a superb mixed choir from Maesteg. Noteworthy was formed in 2006 by their present musical director, Ryan Wood.

The majority of the choir are performers in their own right, all of whom share a passion for mixed choral singing.

The choir has already performed many prestigious fundraising concerts and will provide an excellent contrast to



ABOVE
Rhian Yamin-Ali.

the male voices of the main performers of the evening.

Ryan Wood is in high demand as an accompanist for a variety of choirs, theatre companies and solo performers, including Only Men Aloud (winners of

the popular TV competition 'Last Choir Standing') and Serendipity (recent winners of Welsh Choir of the Year).

He is currently the musical director of Cowbridge Amateur Operatic Society and deputy musical director/accompanist to Cowbridge Male Voice Choir.

The choir's accompanist is Rhian Yamin-Ali, who has also played the piano from a very early age, is proficient with cello and guitar, and has also had voice training.

For the last 10 years, Rhian has been musical director of Cŵr Meibion Maesteg a'r Cylch. She is head of music/assistant head at Pencoed Comprehensive School and is responsible for the school concerts and annual productions.

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Fontygary Leisure Park - Rhoose



Fun in the sun at Fontygary Leisure Park

The sun shone and the people came...

Bouncy Castles, face painting, competitions and karaoke were just some of the activities which kept the kids happy this Easter while Dads sat happily in the Bar on the Bay, watching their favourite sporting fixtures on the new 8ft x 6ft screen.

Mums lazed outside enjoying the sunshine watching the fun.

Our café, Litebites, did a roaring trade - with the new Sunday lunches going down a treat!

The wobble (like a huge bouncy castle) was up in the swimming pool - this will continue every Sunday between the hours of 11am and 1pm.

Our resident children's entertainers, The Krazy Khicks, were on hand to supervise all the fun and

mayhem! They are at the Bar on the Bay every Friday and Saturday evenings from 7.30pm, bringing their own kind of zany humour to proceedings - everyone is welcome.

Mark, the Bar manager, commented: "It is great to see so many families enjoying themselves - the whole place is buzzing. Helen and Cheryl, our Krazy Khicks, have really made such a difference - it just shows that if the children are happy, then the parents are happy, and can enjoy themselves without any stress."

So, come on down to Fontygary and see for yourselves - a warm welcome is extended to everyone!



For Bank Holiday fun this weekend!

Fontygary Leisure Park, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan. Telephone 01446 711074/710386

Deano wins his final point-to-point at Bonvilston

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

COWBRIDGE'S Deano Coleman made his final point-to-point ride a winning one when landing the open maiden race at the Penttyrch Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases at Redland Farm Racecourse, Bonvilston, on Saturday on Mr Robert Thomas's *Micks Prospect*.

Coleman, now conditional jockey to Aberthyn racehorse trainer Tim Vaughan, had earlier been successful on *Tigu* in the confined race and both horses are trained by Tim's wife Abbi, who has saddled nine point-to-point winners this season.

Tigu, owned by Chris Bolton, won by 12 lengths from *Doctor Supremo*, and *Micks Prospect* proved much too speedy for *Copper Carroll*, coming home some 30 lengths clear.

The Dunraven Windows Welsh Point-To-Point Grand National over three-and-a-half miles was a real cracker with the French-bred *Misamon* getting home by half-a-length from the favourite *Lady Myfanwy*, with *Its Definite* a neck away in third spot.

Misamon's rider, John Mathias from Tenby, made nearly every post a winning one and was chalking up his 13th winner of the season.

Mrs Rae Jones's *Lough Ennel* landed the members' race for the third year in a row, and the 13-year-old chesnut gelding, who has won a total of 13 races, will now be retired.

Lough Ennel's regular partner Liam Payter, who won nine of those races on him, said he will miss riding him again.

Only three horses faced the starter for the ladies' open race and this resulted in another win for Beth Roberts's *Chesnut Annie* who was never headed.

Chesnut Annie has won all of her nine races this season, and on each occasion has been ridden by Welsh ladies' champion Isabel Tompsett.

Michael Keel, a 33-year-old firefighter from Worcestershire, won the restricted race on his father's *Shiela's Legacy* who scored by four lengths from *Holmwood Legend*.

The favourite *Burren Chieftan* might have been unlucky as the rider's saddle slipped on the first circuit, causing him to lose his irons and was eventually pulled up.

Keel, who has ridden a total of 17 winners in 15 years, said that he now intends to give up race-riding.

Rhys Hughes, assistant trainer to Tim Vaughan, won the Dunraven Bowl Hunter Chase at Chepstow on Edna Hussey's *Bob Bites Back*, who beat the Tim Vaughan-trained favourite *Dead Or Alive*, ridden by Deano Coleman, by two lengths.

Bob Bites Back is trained in Bridgend by Swansea hairdresser Robert Scrine, and in last year's renewal had finished a well-beaten fifth when starting a 11-4 favourite. Those who kept faith in the horse this time were rewarded with odds of 17-2.

This Saturday, the Llangeinor Hunt are holding their annual point-to-point races at Laleston, near Bridgend. Racing gets under way with the members' race at 2pm and, as usual, a big crowd is expected.

Beth Roberts, owner and trainer of the prolific *Chesnut Annie*, is bound to have a runner or two and whichever ones she decides to run should be noted.

Her five-year-old *Copper Carroll*, although beaten a long way at the Penttyrch last weekend when finishing second to *Micks Prospect*, is one to note for the future, while stablemate *Twilight Dancer* is another that could spring a surprise before the season ends.

Chesnut Annie has been entered in the ladies' open race at the Banwen Miners meeting at Pentreclywdau near Neath on Monday. There are 21 entries for this race and these include *Grey Kind* and *Bob Bites Back*, who is more likely to go in the men's open for which there are 19 entries.



PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

Other pictures are available from this event.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:

e-mail glynnevans01@tiscali.co.uk
telephone 01446 773225.

*Now open in the Wool Barn, Verity's Court, Cowbridge.



School transport for Welsh medium pupils is an issue – says Cornelly councillor

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Welsh medium school could re-locate to the Afon y Felin site which currently has a Flying Start Mobile unit on site for children aged up to two. This unit could stay in situ or move to the Corneli Primary site.

Mr Guy said if this option was chosen, it would have to be carried out in stages, with pupils attending Afon y Felin being split initially between Pil Primary and Corneli, while changes were made at the Afon y Felin site to enable the Welsh school to be re-located there.

There would be a need to accommodate the school buses which ferry many pupils to the Welsh medium school.

Once the Welsh school pupils have moved out of their present site, the buildings would be upgraded to accommodate the extra pupils from Afon y Felin.

There is also an option of closing Pil Primary School and transferring the Welsh school to that site instead.

Pupils from Pil would transfer to either Mynydd Cynffig or Corneli schools.

This would free up the Afon y Felin site to be sold, with the money generated being used to fund these changes.

The report says: "The logistics of this option would be more difficult to manage, but it has the advantage of retaining an education site in each of the communities in the Cornelly, Pyle and Kenfig Hill area."

The report says that adaptations would have to be carried out at Pil to accommodate the Welsh school buses.

The other option would be to retain Pil as a separate school and refurbishing it at a later stage.

The report is also recommending that Mynydd Cynffig Infant and Junior schools in Kenfig Hill be merged, with the infants school closed down and the infants moved to accommodation on the junior school site which has a five-acre campus.

Cabinet was told that the infant school could possibly be sold and the

ated could be used to part-fund new school development. There would also be savings in running costs.

The two schools had a total of 324 pupils last September, with pupil numbers expected to rise to 356 by 2015, including a 56-place nursery.

The scheme would need major re-configuration of the existing buildings and 'substantial' new build.

The report says that the capital costs of making these changes would have to come from the Welsh Assembly Government and would be the subject of bids.

Cefn Cribwr Primary School is to remain as it is under the proposals, with some refurbishment required in future. It will not be included in any amalgamations.

The cabinet has approved a programme of work to investigate all the options.

This would include an assessment of any new build and remodelling work needed at all the school sites, plus the financial implications.

Coun Jeff Tildesley, who represents Cornelly on the council, said that he had no doubt that parents of pupils at all of the local schools would be campaigning to keep their schools open.

He said that he had some concerns about the proposals as some of the resulting merged schools could become too big.

He felt that the option to move the Welsh school to Afon y Felin was more likely than moving it to Pil because of the issue of the school buses.

"The message I am getting is that nothing is going to happen for at least four to five years.

"We will have to wait and see what final recommendations emerge from the extensive investigations that will now be carried out, and then there will be consultations with everyone involved.

"There's a long way to go – and that's before we even think about where the money will come from," he added.

A second safety gold award for local company

HOUSING refurbishment specialist Lovell, which is carrying out a major housing refurbishment project in Bridgend with Valleys to Coast, has achieved a top safety award from RoSPA, The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, for the second year running.

The company has won the gold RoSPA occupational health & safety award for its health and safety management systems at its construction sites and offices across south Wales and the west country.

The RoSPA awards recognise companies that have highly effective health and safety management systems in place and are committed to maintaining strict health and safety standards.

Lovell regional health, safety and environmental manager Tom Davies will be presented with the award at a ceremony at the Hilton Birmingham Metropole Hotel, Birmingham, on May 13.

David Rawlins, RoSPA awards manager, commented: "Lovell has shown a commitment to protecting the health and well-being of its employees and others. Entering the RoSPA Awards reinforces the message that good health and safety is good for business, and clearly demonstrates an organisation's dedication to improving performance in this crucial area."

"To win this award for the second year in succession highlights the powerful health and safety ethos which exists throughout the company," said Lovell regional director Nick Kurobasa.

"It also recognises the hard work and dedication of our site teams and subcontractors and our

commitment to the safety and wellbeing of both the people who work on our sites and the wider community."

Lovell is working with Valleys to Coast on an £18 million housing improvement programme to upgrade 2,500 homes in Bridgend to the Welsh Housing Quality Standard. The company is also building 36 homes for open market and low-cost sale at Pant-yr-Awel, to the north of the town.

At St Athan, Lovell is working on a £2.25 million housing development for Wales & West Housing Association as part of a Welsh Assembly Government pilot scheme to create 'super-green' housing which achieves the higher levels of the Code for Sustainable Homes.

News from the Porthcawl Townswomen's Guild branch

CHAIRMAN Freda opened the meeting by welcoming the president Mrs Joyce Whiteing, and several people came to see what we are all about.

Speaker for the afternoon was Mr Alan Thorne from Cardiff, who spoke on the life of Welsh composer Ivor Novello.

Mrs Eve White gave the vote of thanks and many questions were asked.

On Wednesday, April 22, members are going to Bath Abbey for the 80 years thanksgiving service.

Before the next meeting to celebrate the 80 years, Porthcawl

Townswomen's Guild are holding a free coffee morning on May 6, at 10.30am-12pm in the YMCA John Street. Come and have a free coffee and free raffle and learn all about us!

The next meeting is on May 13 and Mr Gerald Gabb will be speaking on the Mumbles Railway.

The branch has a wide range of speakers for subjects, including Hearing Dogs (for deaf people); amber; flowers; Baltic highlights; and Faberge.

Join us at the All Saints Church Hall, Victoria Avenue, at 2pm on the second Wednesday of each month!

DR

Now Lib-Dem 'defector' joins Independents

THE ranks of the Independent Democrats group on Bridgend Borough Council have been boosted by one.

Coun Peter Foley, who resigned from the Liberal Democrats after a row over the way he chaired the scrutiny committee looking into the closure of Troed y Ton care home, has applied to join.

It is expected that his application will be welcomed by the group, which is led by Coun Jeff Tildesley of Cornelly.

Coun Foley said he had received a very courteous response to his application and he was looking forward to belonging to a group of people of differing views.

"It will help me test my opinions in discussion with others. I have been ploughing a lonely furrow sitting as an independent unaffiliated to any grouping on the council. It will be nice to have some comrades."

The group does not whip its members, who are all free to vote any way they choose on all issues.

"This was a logical next step for me," added Coun Foley.

His presence will boost the group's total number to nine – making them the third largest group on the council after the Liberal Democrats, who have 10 and whose leader Cheryl Green is classed as the leader of the opposition.

The Lib Dems hold the chairs of all the scrutiny committees apart from Health and Well Being – Peter Foley's old chair – which went to Conservative leader Pat Hacking, after

she beat the Liberal Democrat's Carol Davies in a vote in which Labour members took part.

The GEM understands that there may be some changes to the chairs of the scrutiny committees at the annual meeting of the council in May.

There are rumours that the Independent Democrats may challenge the Lib-Dems for some of these seats and it will be interesting to see if they are backed by Labour councillors who are entitled to vote.

Labour holds 27 seats on the 54-strong authority.

Having an additional member will certainly give more clout to this grouping of independents, which includes Plaid Cymru's Malcolm James, who is an associate member.

There are two other Independents – Mel Winter and Peter Evans, who both backed the Rainbow Alliance of Lib Dems and Conservatives which ran the council until last May's elections.

But the Independent Democrats did not align themselves with either the Rainbow Alliance or Labour.

Their group includes three former Labour councillors – Coun Tildesley, Megan Butcher and Ella Dodd. Meryl Wilkins and Coun Foley are former Liberal Democrats, while Don Brett is a former Conservative. There are also two independent councillors from Caerau – Steve Smith and Ken Hunt – who have never been involved with any other political party.

There are also six Conservatives on the council – now the smallest of the party groupings.

'Disgust' over leak to press prompts Porthcawl probe

AN investigation is under way into the leaking of confidential business at Porthcawl Town Council.

Mayor David Newton Williams said he was very concerned that information had been leaked to the press relating to an incident which was discussed in private by councillors.

The leak, which was not carried in The GEM, related to a letter from an employee of Bridgend County Borough Council about the actions of a member of the town council.

The council had decided to take no further action.

Coun Newton Williams reminded members that they all signed standing orders and one part of that related to the need to keep certain matters confidential.

"Somebody within our midst has leaked documents to the press and that's unacceptable," he said.

"I am disgusted that somebody has done this. We are making inquiries and if we find the culprit, he or she will be

'IF CAUGHT, THE CULPRIT WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE THE COUNCIL'

asked to leave the council."

Coun Gerald Davies supported what the mayor said: "We have a duty to maintain confidentiality otherwise it destroys our ability to have discussions in confidence. I will pledge to the council that I would support action against anybody caught disclosing information."

He said that the minutes had gone out to other councillors who were not present at the meeting and he suggested that in future, any confidential issues should be printed on pink paper as happens in the borough.

He said that was a visual reminder to members of which matters were confidential.

Coun Newton Williams said that only councillors had the information in question so the leak had come

from a councillor.

He said that documents of a very sensitive nature could be issued on the night and then withdrawn so that nobody could take them out of the meeting.

Coun Alana Davies said she supported putting some information on pink paper, because it was easy to distinguish between them.

She agreed that very confidential information could be given on the night and then taken back although this would not normally be necessary.

Coun Norah Clarke said she supported using pink paper as those sheets could then be shredded rather than thrown out.

Clerk Ceri Anderson said she had spoken to the press as part of her investigations into the leak.

She has discovered that the information had been e-mailed to them.

Coun Newton Williams added that Bridgend County Borough Council was "spitting feathers over this."

The matter is to be referred for further discussion at the next meeting.

New Gateways to the Valleys school could cost £30m at Ynysawdre – COUNCIL CABINET TOLD

THE new Gateway to the Valleys comprehensive school being planned to replace Ogmogre and Ynysawdre schools will cost between £15m and £30m, Bridgend's cabinet has been told.

Members decided on Tuesday to press ahead with the closure of both schools. Public notices will be published in May.

The old schools will be replaced with a new school to be provided on the campus of Ynysawdre although, initially, buildings at the Ogmogre campus will also be used. The proposed opening date for the new school is September 2011.

The school will serve the Ogmogre and Garw valleys as well as the gateway area including Aberkenfig, Sarn, Brynecethin, Brynnennyn, Tondy and Penyfa.

The proposal was agreed some time ago after a feasibility study was carried out.

Officers told the cabinet that the scheme would remove a high number of surplus

places in both schools and would reduce running costs.

The Ogmogre site will also be freed up eventually and could be sold to generate capital for the council.

The report stated that current estimates of providing a new 10-form entry school with sixth form and special needs provision would be between £15 and £30m.

The final figure will depend on how many of the existing buildings on the Ynysawdre site can be refurbished.

It will not be possible to have the school on a single site until a new block has been built. Work will be needed at the Ogmogre site in the meantime for the interim split-site scheme to work.

If only a school is provided, the cost would be £15m but if additional community facilities were incorporated, the costs will increase.

The Welsh Assembly Government has approved the plan in principle and has also approved some funding for design and other preparatory work.

The report, from Trevor Guy, head of strategy in the chil-

dren's directorate, warns that there was no certainty that further WAG money would be available.

He went on: "However, given that they have supported the scheme by committing funding for the design and enabling works, funding for the whole or part of the physical work is considered to be a strong possibility."

"Should further WAG funding not be available, the council would need to allocate monies from its capital programme to complete the necessary building works."

But he warned that this money is limited and subject to considerable spending pressures.

He also warned that if WAG funding was not available, the scheme would take longer to implement.

• WHAT DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE PLANS OUTLINED ABOVE? IF YOU HAVE A VIEW, WRITE TO THE GEM AT GRAIG HOUSE, 53 EASTGATE, COWBRIDGE, CF71 7EL, OR EMAIL ggem@internet-today.co.uk

Vale widow (82) in Bahamas vigil after gun attack on son

AN 82-year-old Vale woman, who moved to the Bahamas to live with her son, is devastated after he was gunned down on his way to work.

It was only last December that Mrs Mildred Jones said a fond goodbye to friends in Peterston-super-Ely – and particularly to members of the Bethania Presbyterian Church.

Mildred Jones was well-known in the village, having lived there since 1973 with her husband Tom – a senior official in the Ministry of Agriculture, and an elder of the church, who died in the early 1990s.

Her son Hywel, a high-flying international banker, had converted a room in his Bahamas home for her. In recent years, Mildred had suffered a double fracture of the arm, and a fracture of the pelvis, and her mobility was not good.

Hywel Jones, who is aged 55, was arriving at

his office when he was shot in the back of the head. Local police have described the attack as having all the hallmarks of a professional hitman.

It is believed that the bullet passed straight through his skull, and he is now reported to be in a coma. Mrs Jones is being comforted by her other son, Illtyd, who has flown in from California, where he works in the film industry.

Tony and Lynn McCarthy live in Peterston, and knew Mildred well from the church. They used to take her to the Sunday morning service.

In fact, Lynn spoke to Hywel the weekend before he was shot, as he was arranging for a webcam system to be installed so that Mildred could chat to friends.

Lynn said: "She was very homesick, and her first telephone bill in the Bahamas was very expensive, because she was making so many calls home."



ABOVE: Hywel Jones (at rear) and mother Mildred pictured in December with Sunday School children.

Hywel had arranged the webcam via a computer line, and told her friends that it would be much cheaper for her to talk, as well as being able to see each other.

Hywel's call to Peterston was to test out the system, and all appeared to be well.

Tony McCarthy said: "Hywel seemed fine and he was doing his best to make his mum comfortable in her new home."

"This has come as a dreadful shock, and I can't imagine what poor Mildred must be going through. At least she has Illtyd with her."

Hywel Jones lived in the family home in Peterston for only a short time, and after university he travelled the world, working in high finance.

The GEM understands that Mrs Jones' home in the village is still up for sale.

AS The GEM went to press, Mr Jones' condition was unchanged.

Miracle escape as pregnant woman is cut free from car



The result of the accident on the lane is all too clear to see from the above photo.

THERE has been a renewed call for a by-pass at Llysworney following a road traffic collision on Wednesday, April 22, in which a pregnant woman had to be cut free from her car.

Four fire crews – one each from Cowbridge and Pontypridd, and two from Bridgend – raced to the scene on the B4268, after the collision involving the car and a heavy goods vehicle.

Firefighters worked closely with paramedics to release the 35-year-old woman, who was six months pregnant, and the operation took half an hour.

She was taken to hospital for a precautionary check-up.

Gareth Llewellyn, a watch manager at Cowbridge Fire Station, told The GEM: "The efforts of everyone involved in

this rescue were outstanding and the woman was released in just 30 minutes, with seemingly superficial injuries.

"The work of the crews involved dramatically reduced the stresses and discomfort to both mother and her unborn child."

"This road traffic collision took place on a country lane where driving conditions were good, with good visibility."

"This incident could have been a lot worse, and should act as a reminder to everyone to drive at a speed relevant to the distance that can be seen ahead."

One local resident, who was at the scene, said it illustrated the need for a by-pass, and added: "If the car had caught fire, there was nothing that could have been done. It was a very bad incident."

"The woman's two boys managed to get out the back window of the car, but she was trapped

under the steering wheel.

"We've been here 21 years and in those days there was nowhere near the traffic there is here today."

Assembly Member Alun Cairns, who knows the road well, told The GEM: "This is a very serious situation. We have known of the effects of traffic disruption to Llysworney residents for some time, but this accident takes the debate to another level."

"We need to look closely at what can be done to improve the situation. It appears that money is going to be tight over the short term, so we need to look at what can be done to better manage the situation until money becomes available from the Welsh Assembly Government."

"Clearly this situation cannot continue. I will meet with locals to see how we can move the debate forward."

Renovation work at St Illtud's shines a light on Llantwit Major history

A COMBINATION of determined fundraising and grant aid from the Vale Council's Church Act Trust has led to two important restoration projects at St Illtud's Church getting the go-ahead.

In the interior of the historic Llantwit Major church, the staircase will be completely refurbished at a cost of £14,500 – with £5,000 coming from the council fund, and the rest of the money raised locally.

Outside – costing less but equally important – is a modernisation of the small medieval footbridge that crosses the stream at the rear of the church.

It is a modernisation only in that it will allow wheelchair access, and will replace old hand rails that are showing signs of wear and tear.

The original stones that went into building the bridge will be untouched – although the new design will make them more easily seen.

The cost of this project is £3,100, with £1,000 coming from the Vale Council-administered Church Act Trust, and the remainder once again from the church's own fundraisers.

The GEM joined Clifford Edge and Coun John Clifford to look at



ABOVE: Left to right: Coun John Clifford, Clifford Edge, Roy Coles (treasurer) and the Rector, John Webber.

the intended project, and to hear about possible future developments.

Mr Edge said: "The more you look around the church and its grounds, the more you discover. It is so rich in history."

Coun Clifford said that the church was a real "jewel" in the Vale, and he pointed out that the visitors' book now included comments from all over the world.

There are previously-reported plans in the pipeline to develop the Galilee Chapel, but lately Cliff Edge has been looking at another historical site in the grounds.

He said: "Adjoining the Garden of Remembrance there is what used to be a blacksmith's – until it was hit by a bomb in 1942."

"Since then, it has been a ruin, although recent investigation uncovered all the blacksmith's tools, still on site."

However, Mr Edge's interest in this building dates back much further than World War Two. He said: "I believe it dates back to the Dominican monks – either 13th or 14th century – and was the priest's chantry house."

"It was very well fit-

ted out for its time, even with an indoor latrine."

CADW, the Welsh heritage body, thinks Mr Edge could be on to something, and they are investigating further. If the research goes well, the entire structure could be rebuilt.

Mr Edge said: "It could be like a building at St Fagans."

Old bones set for rugby re-union at Llantwit



ABOVE: 2007 reunion players.

RECENTLY, have you noticed the increased smell of wintergreen, odd socks and old kit being worn by older men, running around Llantwit Major?

This is not down to the hot summer coming, or by mature men on a fitness spurge.

It is for the cause, which is another Llantwit Major Veterans rugby reunion event.

It is now two years since the successful celebration day which was held to commemorate 50 years of youth rugby played in

Llantwit Major'. Well, it's that time again, a reunion is planned for May 9. This will be a lower scale than the 2007 event, but just as exciting.

A match is planned between a mix of Veterans versus under-20s rugby players.

The captain of the over-35s 'Vets' will be Peter 'Pedro' Evans (a sprightly 54 years young) ably supported by vice-captain Les Dixon (a youngster at 47).

Their opponents will be a younger Llantwit Major team, sprinkled with youth and young first team players, and a

few special guests.

For the 'Vets', the brothers Pike – Keith, David and Paul – are hoping to play on the same team together (as long as the wintergreen and bandages hold up).

Club coaches Simon Jenkins and Mark Jones are also having a run out for the Vets.

This is against some of the young players they have been training all season – no grudges please, this is a friendly game after all.

Former first class Llantwit Major rugby stars such as Simon Hill (Wales, Cardiff and Bridgend), Phil 'Tonka' Thomas (Cardiff,

Pontypridd, Glamorgan Wanderers), Neil Baxter (Cardiff, Glamorgan Wanderers), Andrew Morgan (Glamorgan Wanderers), Leigh Young (Penarth and Aberavon), are all pencilled in to play.

Oxygen is available for them if it is required.

Other notable guests include former Wales and Cardiff forward Andrew Lewis.

All former Llantwit Major Youth players are welcome.

The match will be played on the Recreational Field in Llantwit Major; kick-off 1.30pm.

WN/JD

Athletic roar back to the top after big win over Cwmafan

Bridgend Athletic will return to Division One West following a 41 - 3 win over Cwmafan.

They now top the Division Two West table with 74 points, with fellow promoted team Builth Wells on 72 points. Both sides conclude their season's this Saturday (May 2).

If the Athletic win at Kidwelly they will be promoted as champions.

The Athletic have hit form at the right time scoring 114 points and conceding only 28 in their last three fixtures.

From 21 games, they have scored 496 points,

with 284 against. They have 65 tries for and 31 against

Despite the score line the Athletic were made to battle throughout against a big Cwmafan eight. Outside half Stuart Morris kicked three penalties in the opening quarter.

The game was tight, with Cwmafan responding with a penalty in the 38th minute from scrum half Gareth John.

A typical moment of Athletic magic then turned the game. Centre Robert Coles was given the ball on his own 22 and beat six players in a mesmerising run before off-loading to the sup-

Bridgend Athletic 41 Cwmafan 3

porting No 8 Dan Apsee, who raced the final 20 metres. With the final kick of the half, Stuart Morris converted to put the Athletic in the box seat at 14-3.

Outstanding lock Sean Williams charged down a kick ahead on his own 22, regathered and fed hooker and captain Simon Mustoe. Mustoe ran into the 22 and set up quick ball.

Half backs Sean Owens and Morris moved the ball quickly and flanker Chris Whitcombe threw out a

long pass, eagerly seized on by full back Lyndsey McCausland who raced over for his 11th try of the season. Sean Owens converted to put the Athletic 21-3 ahead.

Excellent scrummaging by the front row of youth team prop Matthew Norman, Mustoe and prop Wayne Fookes put pressure on the Cwmafan scrum on the Athletic 22.

From poor possession, centre Hywel Davies intercepted and ran to half way before handing

Robert Coles to run in his 17th try of the season. Owen converted and added a penalty to stretch the Athletic lead to 31-3.

The Athletic then introduced youth team No 8 Tom Morgan for his senior debut. One of his first acts was to pick up from a five-metre scrum, force his way over for a debut try and gain his team a bonus point.

This quickly became a brace of tries as he supported a Mustoe break to cross in the corner for the Athletics' fifth.

All 19 players used contributed to the win. Youth prop Matthew Norman, up against a heavier opponent, was outstanding in loose and tight and will be a much-needed acquisition in Division One West next season.

Scrum half Sean Owens, in his second appearance at scrum half, again showed excellent speed off the mark, strength in being able to hold the ball under pressure and the ability to get the back line moving. All these attributes have helped the backs to be able to express their talent.

AB

College students represent Wales

BRIDGEND College football academy success was rewarded when three players represented the Welsh Colleges international side against New Zealand, England and a Cardiff City select side.

Liam Hutchinson, Stephen Trudgill and Josh Ellis all played a part in the international fixture list, which saw Wales lose a competitive two-legged affair against England on penalties.

England won the first leg 3-1 in Wales, but were totally out-played by the determined Welsh side in the return leg. England hosted their

home tie at the impressive Telford stadium in front of a large and noisy crowd.

First year Bridgend student Josh Ellis played a major part in the heart of the Welsh midfield, winning tackles and starting Welsh counter-attacking moves.

After 90 minutes, Wales were leading by two-nil to level the score on aggregate. Thirty minutes of extra time could not separate the sides under the sweltering heat and the game moved on to penalties.

Unfortunately, England held their nerve, much to the delight of their supporters, to win the Anglo cup.

Bridgend football academy manager, Jason Perry, was delighted with

the performance of his three players throughout the international fixture programme.

He said: "All three players were a credit to themselves, their families and the college. As individuals they played with flair and confidence, and this experience will be looked back on with fond memories."

The college are now coming to the end of their season, where they are challenging at the top end of both the English and British Colleges leagues.

Anybody interested in joining the Bridgend College Football Academy should contact Jason Perry on 01656 302620.



The Bridgend College team celebrate another success.

Bridgend Athletic under-8s take tournament title

BRIDGEND Athletic mini rugby hosted their annual tournament and invited five other teams from across south Wales to do battle for the cup.

The competition comprised one pool of six, with all teams playing each other and the two top teams playing in the final for the cup.

Some of squad members, due to one team not turning up, joined a team made up from the various sides attending on the day. This team was named the Barbarians.

Bridgend Athletic under-8s took the field for their first match.

POOL MATCHES

ATH LLANTWIT FARDRE 4 2

THIS was a solid start from the under-8 squad.

Top defending from Connor Fabian, Gwilym John, Thomas Anthony and Jack Obbard frustrated their opponents and forced them into mistakes. Brandyn Fooks and Jade Thomas ran well and they had good support from the rest of the team.

Tryscorers for the Ath were Teo Fillis (2), Jade Thomas, and the try of the tie, which was a great team effort with great support work and excellent passing, finished by Jack Obbard.

ATH BARBARIANS 6 2

ANOTHER solid performance, which again allowed most of the squad to get a bit of game time.

Jade Thomas, Teo Fillis and James Hermolle looked sharp in attack and the defence was held together by Gwilym John, Brandyn Fooks, and Thomas Anthony along with top taggers Jamie Marshall, Jack Obbard and Connor Fabian, who looked a class act, scoring four in this game.

Thomas Anthony scored a well-deserved try but the pick of the touchdowns was a long solo effort by Jamie Marshall.

ATH RUMNEY 3 3

WHAT a fantastic effort from the team.

Rumney were unbeaten in the tournament up until this encounter and were enjoying a successful season. The tie was full of quality rugby from both teams and it was hard to believe that you were watching under-8s.

Gwilym John scored a great try after all the team had touched the ball and this was followed by two more great touchdowns. The support work was excellent and it was a real team effort.

Teo Fillis and Connor Fabian led awesome defending, with great support from Thomas Anthony, Jade Thomas and Jack Obbard. Tryscorers for the Ath were Connor Fabian, Jamie Marshall and Geilym John.

ATH PONTYCLUN 4 2

GWILYM John led by example with good strong running.

He had support from Brandyn Fooks, Jade Thomas, James Hermolle, Thomas Anthony and

Jamie Marshall. Jack Obbard scored the opening try, and had good support from Teo Fillis.

Tryscorers for Bridgend were Jack Obbard, Connor Fabian (2) and Teo Fillis.

ATH COWBRIDGE 6 3

IN this game, Ath players from the Barbarian side re-joined the squad.

Cowbridge had come to the event, after a successful season, but had lost to Rumney earlier in the day and had to beat the Ath if they wanted to make the final.

The Ath took an early lead and Cowbridge quickly equalised. Ath scored again, and so did Cowbridge (2-2). Then the Bridgend boys started to get on top of their opponents, gaining turnover ball because of superb tagging and worked tirelessly to keep the Cowbridge attackers at bay.

Most of the squad again got onto the field in this impressive win. Ath tryscorers were Jade Thomas (2), Connor Fabian (2), Jamie Marshall and Jack Obbard. The Ath moved onto the final after topping the group along with Rumney.

THE FINAL

ATH RUMNEY 5 3

THE two top teams did battle in another encounter full of quality rugby.

The first half was a very close affair with the Ath just edging it 3-2.

Rumney started the second half strongly and equalised and, if it were not for some try-saving tags from Gwilym John and Thomas Anthony, the game would have turned in Rumney's favour.

The defensive effort from the Ath was excellent with the workload being shared throughout the team. This hard work paid off and Rumney became increasingly frustrated.

From the resulting turnovers, the Bridgend speedsters made Rumney pay. Bridgend finished Rumney off with a couple of good tries to win the cup. Tryscorers for Bridgend were Thomas Anthony (2), Jamie Marshall, Jade Thomas and Teo Fillis.

The under-8 squad on the day was Jack Obbard, Connor Fabian, Jamie Marshall, Thomas Anthony, William Goodall, Brandyn Fooks, Gwilym John, Jade Thomas, Teo Fillis, James Hermolle, Christopher Hart and Sam Veasey.



ABOVE: The Bridgend Athletic under-8s, who emerged victorious in their annual tournament.

BRYNCETHIN JUNIOR RUGBY ROUND-UP

Mixed fortunes for juniors in busy week on rugby field

Under-8s

AN inexperienced squad were given an opportunity to play a couple of games midweek.

The results were: Bryncethin 0 Garw 5; Bryncethin 2 Valley Ravens 4. Tryscorers: Rhys Cawley and Daniel Osarigie.

On Sunday, the under-8s travelled to Corus to play the hosts and Maesteg. Bryncethin again travelled with a young squad, with eight of the 12 players under-7s qualified.

MAESTEG BRYNCETHIN 3 1

MATCH captain Davis Pilkington led from the front with a number of runs.

He was well supported by Ifan Hunnam, Mike Gillett and Daniel Osarigie, who all showed nice touches in attack. Despite the whole team having a willingness to throw the ball about, Bryncethin were unable to break through.

The much larger Maesteg team were able to score two first half tries to take the lead.

Despite more endeavour at the start of the second half by Bryncethin, it was again Maesteg who scored. The Bryncethin youngsters never lost heart though, and were rewarded when Tobias Hunt made a strong break and was able to release Ethan Hopkins who showed great skill to score a well-deserved consolation.

CORUS MAESTEG 4 5

FOR the second game of the day, Bryncethin were captained by Mike Gillett and what a ding dong battle between two evenly-matched teams it was.

Both teams set about attacking at every opportunity, and the first score soon came when the busy Davis Pilkington made progress and passed to Daniel Osarigie to score.

Corus hit back to level the scores but Bryncethin scored again when Daniel Osarigie was able to provide an opportunity for Ifan Hunnam to speed away to score. Not to be outdone, Corus were level again before half-time.

Following the break, Bryncethin continued where they left off and Ethan Hopkins was able to set up Davis Pilkington for another try. Back came Corus to equalise, but still Bryncethin wouldn't stop working, as Shea Francis scored a super try to take the lead again.

This time Corus were unable to strike back immediately. The excellent Tobias Hunt made another strong run and was able to give a chance to Rhys Cawley, who showed superb balance and speed to score.

The Corus youngsters never gave up and fought back again to make it 5-4. It was to be too little, too late and Bryncethin were able to press for more scores, only to be denied by the final whistle.

Congratulations to both teams for a very entertaining match.

Match day squad: Mike Gillett, Davis Pilkington, Josh Nuth, Ben Lewis, Tobias Hunt, Ifan Hunnam, Daniel Osarigie, Shea Francis, Rhys Cawley, Ethan Hopkins, Billy Sinclair and Jake Whitefield.

Man-of-the-match: Superb performances throughout the team but the award went to Davis Pilkington and Ifan Hunnam.

Under-9s

CORUS BRYNCETHIN 1 4

ANOTHER impressive display from the under-9s saw them take the lead through Aaron Jones.

Bryncethin displayed excellent skills throughout the team, with Dafydd Evans, Rhys Davies, Emyr Hunnam and Jack Thomas all showing up well. All the hard work was rewarded with a second from Emyr Watkin before half-time.

Following the break, Iwan Veasey added a third before Corus threatened a comeback with a try of their own. Bryncethin maintained discipline, with Ryan Morgan, Callum Francis, Morgan Tarr and Ryan Blake all showing up well. The match was settled when Emyr Watkin scored his second.

Match day squad: Dafydd Evans, Ryan Blake, Iwan Veasey, Emyr Watkin, Jack Thomas, Morgan Tarr, Ryan Morgan, Aaron Jones, Emyr Hunnam, Rhys Davies and Callum Francis.

Man-of-the-match: Aaron Jones.

The Ospreys pack down with Ty Hafan for benefit match!

THE Ospreys have announced details of a unique partnership between the region and Ty Hafan, which it is anticipated could raise as much as £40,000 for the charity before the end of the season.

The initiative was launched at the hospice in Sully, when the whole squad, including star players such as Ryan Jones, Shane Williams, James Hook and Gavin Henson, swooped in to visit the patients and their families.

To mark their visit, every player also left their hand mark and signature on a special commemorative wall, alongside previous famous visitors such as the Prince of Wales, Katherine Jenkins and Joe Calzaghe.

The partnership will see the Ospreys' Magners League clash against Glasgow on the weekend of May 8-10, being billed as a Ty Hafan Benefit Match, with bosses at the region handing £3 from every full price adult ticket sold for the game (£1 per child/OAP ticket) via the Liberty Stadium Ticket Office to the charity.

In addition to this, the Ospreys have presented Ty Hafan with a substantial allocation of tickets for the game, which are a mixture of all values including hospitality, allowing them to sell them and keep all revenues raised.

A collection of valuable signed memorabilia has also been handed over by the squad, which will be used as auction and raffle prizes, boosting Ty Hafan's coffers even further.

Paul Thorburn, strategic development manager at the Ospreys, said: "Ty Hafan is a fantastic facility that has benefited so many people, and we are honoured to be able to show our support in this way."

"We appreciate that during difficult economic times it can be hard for organisations such as Ty Hafan to generate the income that is needed, just as members of the public who would like to assist may find it difficult to find the spare cash to donate."

"By partnering with Ty Hafan in this way, we are both raising the profile of such a worthy cause, and also, by dedicating the Glasgow match as a Ty Hafan Benefit Match, we are allowing our supporters to give to a good cause simply by coming along to cheer on the Ospreys."

"Our supporters have always shown their support for the various charity initiatives that we have backed over the years. I have no doubt that, once again, they will turn out in numbers to support Ty Hafan and help to make a real difference to the hundreds of families in Wales who so desperately rely on their service."

Ray Hurcombe, chief executive, Ty Hafan, said: "I am absolutely delighted that the Ospreys have chosen Ty Hafan for this benefit match."

"I know that many of our children and staff are avid Ospreys fans and they are very excited to meet the team."

"Therefore, I would like to thank the squad for taking the time to come and visit us. We look forward to a long and mutually beneficial association with the Ospreys and wish them every success for the rest of the season."

Ospreys captain Ryan Jones said that the visit had moved the entire squad: "The whole experience was a very humbling one for everybody in the squad. To meet the children and families who rely on the services provided by Ty Hafan and to see first hand their courage, attitude and sense of humour, despite their problems, certainly makes you put things in perspective."

"Everybody at the Ospreys is fully behind this new partnership and we really hope that our supporters also back the charity and buy tickets for the Glasgow match in order to help what is an extremely worthwhile Welsh cause."

Llantwit Major Surf Life Saving Club - offers something for everyone

WHETHER you are looking to boost fitness, develop new skills, make new friends or just give something back to the community, from eight to 88 years - Llantwit Major SLSC has something for you.

The main aim of the club is to provide a voluntary lifeguard service on Llantwit Major beach during the summer, but the club is about much more than just giving people the skills to save lives at sea; the club has a keen sports and social side that continues throughout the year.

For youngsters from eight to 12 years, we have the nipper section of the club. During the winter on Thursdays, the nippers train in the fantastic pool at St Athan Camp between 6pm-7pm, while eager swimmers compete in the Stillwater competitions held at 50m pools such as Swansea and Cardiff.

The nippers move to train on the beach at Barry Island during the summer (from May to September) where they learn sea swimming skills, board paddling and beach sports such as 'flags' and sprints.

The junior section is for young people between 12 and 18 years. Juniors also swim at St Athan on Thursdays, the younger ones swim from 6pm-7pm, the older ones from 7pm-8pm, and the juniors also compete in a range of still water competitions.

The juniors also train at Barry Island during the summer months. Along with sea swimming and beach training, they train on the larger paddle boards and surf skis (similar to sea kayaks).

The juniors also help out with the lifeguard patrols on Llantwit beach during the summer,

where the senior members pass on valuable sea skills.

Juniors are encouraged to take competency tests that prove their ability at sea, and at 16-years-old juniors can take their lifeguard qualification known as the NARS.

During the summer, the older juniors, seniors and masters (from 18 upwards) voluntarily patrol the beach at Llantwit Major. They are trained by the club to become qualified lifeguards.

To keep fit, the seniors and masters train at St Athan pool throughout the year between 8pm-9pm; they also train in the sea on the surf skis and paddle boards, either for competing in the range of beach competitions held across the UK or purely for the pleasure of getting out on the water on a warm summer's day.



Mathew Robinson and Rebecca Rees - surf ski paddlers who have gone to represent their country.

From the age of 16 onwards, members can compete in a national league during the summer, with regular week-ends away to Devon and Cornwall.

If you would like to find out more about what the club can offer you, then please go to our website: www.llantwitmajorslsc.org.uk. With summer just around the corner, now is the perfect time to get involved.

The crews launch from the slipway at

Wick in tough match with Cornish side

WICK Rugby Club travelled to England last weekend to play St Day, Redruth, who play in the Cornish league, Division Two.

St Day has a long history, having been established in 1894. Wick RFC has never been beaten by an English side, and so there was a lot at stake.

The tourists took early points through the boot of Dan Powell, due to St Day indiscipline at the break down. The home side set their stall out early, and it was obvious that this fixture was going to be a bruising encounter.

Further indiscipline at the breakdown resulted in this season's top point

scorer, Dan Powell, slotting another three points. (0-6 at half-time).

Most of the game was played in the middle 50-metre section, and it didn't look as if the game was going to produce a try until a speculative chip ahead by man-of-the-match, John Cooper, was gathered by speedster Mike Sims, and converted by Powell.

The game was concluded on a feisty note five minutes early. Final score 0-13.

Coach Creed was happy with the result, but less happy with the fact that players Miles Martin and Neil Parkinson were struck down by a mysterious illness on the morning of the game, leaving the back line with no replacements on the bench.

Thanks were extended to Bryn and Jake McNaughton who stood in, and helped the visitors by playing for them. Gifts were exchanged at The St Day Inn to mark the occasion, and everybody enjoyed the displays of both sides' post-match celebrations.

This Saturday (May 2), Wick RFC travel to Llanharan, to play Heol-y-Cyw in the final of the inaugural Barry Morris Plate Competition.

Forwards: J Birkett, J McNaughton, W Cooke, M Thomas, S Graham, C Davies, N Phillips, M Lewis, T Lewis, R Thomas, L McNaughton, C Lewis.

Backs: D Clark, D Powell, B McNaughton, J Cooper, M Sims, K Roberts, L Berningham.



ABOVE: Despite on-pitch problems, at least the players are in tune off it!

Barry Athletic start new season with friendly win

A MIXED afternoon of weather caused some disruption to a fine match between Barry Athletic CC and Rogerstone CC, witnessed by a large crowd at the Barry Oval.

Due to the poor weather, the match referee was forced to re-schedule the start of the match to 2.30pm.

However, this did not dampen the players' spirits as play did eventually commence.

Rogerstone skipper, B Hourahne, won the toss and elected to field.

A bright start from opening batsmen, Nathan Baker and Lee Morgan, got the Stags up and running, with over five runs per over coming from the first 10 overs.

Things were looking good, until Lee attempted a slog sweep and was caught for a well-worked 37.

There were some fine performances and Nathan Baker will feel disappointed for not reaching his second ton in succession. He was given out lbw. Despite that, Nathan managed to make a deserving 80 from as many deliveries.

There were also some fine batting displays from skipper Ian Gadd (42), Anjan Ahmed (26) and Andrew Buckland (34 n/o). Barry managed to reach an impressive 248-5 from their 40 overs.

The half-time interval was dominated by the return of legendary tea lady, Nicola Baker, who holds the title for 'Dish of the Season' from the 2008 season. She put on an impressive set of food for the players to enjoy.

The entertainment was organised by current Hull City FC chairman, Peter Hellyar, as a selection of players (including Boaz Myhill and captain, Ian Ashbee) were special

guests in a charity event of 'A Question of Sport'. Everyone clearly enjoyed the occasion, and more than £5,000 was raised for the Bradback's Thai Fund Group.

The second innings was under way, with the opening attack of Simon Phillips and Mitchell Taylor-Moore. The Rogerstone batsmen failed to cope with the Stags' pacemen.

Despite the decent knocks from A Trinder and M Asif, the bowlers completely dominated with notable performances from father, Martin Baker - only conceding two runs from four overs - and son, Ashley Baker with an outstanding figures of 6.3-0-26-4.

Ashley, like brother Nathan, was unlucky not to pick up his first five-wicket haul of his career from a debatable decision from the match umpire.

However, Barry were

on top during the course of the second innings and bowled Rogerstone out for a disappointing 139.

The Stags begin the 2009 season next week, with the 1st XI hosting Vale CC and the 2nd XI visiting high flyers, Panteg CC.

● The Stags are proud to announce that former skipper, Martin Baker, has given into temptation and decided to take on the role as 2nd XI captain.

This news has come as a shock as many thought that the game against Hoovers CC at the Barry Oval would be his last in Stag colours.

Martin has agreed to a final one-year contract, which will expire in August 2009, and then a replacement will have to be found after Martin finally hangs up his spikes and calls it a day in his cricket career.

ASHLEY BAKER

Barry Comprehensive on course for national football trophy glory

BARRY Comprehensive's under-16 boys' football team are looking to be crowned Welsh champions at the national finals of the Minute Maid Welsh Schools Cup on May 9-10 at New Saints FC, Oswestry.

The boys have come through a tough national knock-out competition to reach the final, and will play Ysgol Brynrefail, Caernarfon, for the title.

The squad comprises: Luke Walsh, Jordan

Prosser, Tom Moffat, David Bryan, Sam Adamson, Ben Stait, Andrew Gurd, Rhys Davies, Ryan Newman, Chad Clark, Kyle Lewis, Dominic Toozer, Ethan Dicks and Seon

Shakespeare.

More than 180 teams from all over Wales have been competing for the prestigious title of Welsh Schools Champions.

Gerry Stacey, director of Coca Cola Enterprises

Limited (Wales and West) commented: "We're delighted to see Barry Comprehensive in the national finals again and wish them every success."



RIGHT: The Barry Comprehensive under-16s squad.

LATEST NEWS FROM THE PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS

Dodging bullets and spent shells alongside the Epynt Way!

RECENTLY, leader Phil John and 10 walkers travelled up to Llanfihangel Nant Bran in Powys.

This picturesque small village derives its name from the Nant Bran river and the 16th century village church dedicated to St Michael – and consists of around a dozen houses, the church and a farm.

The Nant Bran river is a short one which rises on the southern slopes of Mynydd

Epynt, flowing through Llanfihangel Nant Bran, en route to meet up with the River Usk at Aberbrân, some three miles west of Brecon; and is designated a special area of conservation for various rare fish.

Setting out from the village hall, the group followed the Nant Bran river for a short distance before climbing up onto higher ground, where they stopped for morning refreshments.

Afterwards, they continued along the ridge to join a gravel track that would take them towards the Epynt range.

This part of Powys is predominantly sheep country and spring lambs were in abundance as the group saw the only person they would encounter all day, in the shape of a farmer and his dogs out tending the sheep.

In 1940, the Ministry of Defence bought a great deal of land in the area to set up a training camp for soldiers.

Around 40,000 soldiers pass through Epynt ranges each year, and many of their exercises include the use of live bullets and ammunition, so members of the public are excluded from many areas for their own safety.

Just prior to reaching the artillery range, the group stopped to read some notices regarding safety procedures before joining the Epynt Way.

The long distance path of the Epynt Way is not a public right of way, but a permissive path set up by the Ministry of Defence, and its route here cir-

cumnavigates the edge of the firing range, where the results of firing were very much in evidence as the ground was littered with spent shells.

Walking through a delightful wood, the group stopped for lunch near the old farmhouse at Tir-cyd as by now the sun had broken through, as the clouds disappeared.

Refreshed, they walked a short stretch of lane before joining a bri-

dleway to open access land and rough moorland walking.

Seeing something in the distance, they deviated to investigate and found a selection of military equipment, including helmets (some with night lights) and a wrist altimeter.

After some discussion, it was decided to place the items in a plastic bag and leave it at the trig point nearby, where it could easily be located, as the leader

would contact the Sennybridge Operations Room upon his return home.

Reaching Llyn Dwr, they left the lake via a bridge path where the views were sensational, turning into the pretty Cwm Erchan for the return back to their start.

On May 2, meet at 10am at Cosmeston visitor centre for a bus ride to Sully and a 5-mile easy/moderate linear walk back via Hayes Point and the coast; con-

tact Colin/Eileen on 029 2070 5867.

On May 3, meet at 9.30am at Cogan Leisure Centre for an 8-mile moderate walk at Parc Penallta; contact Janet/John on 01446 418514.

Please note the extra mid-week walk on May 5. Meet at 10am outside Cardiff Central railway station for a 4 or 5-mile easy urban walk; contact Harry on 029 2070 1818.

Wear suitable cloth-

ing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks. Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, then please contact the walk leader for advice. For other groups' walk log onto www.ramblers.org.uk

Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2021 9102.

JOY STRANGWARD

Who wants to build what and where?

Mr Simon Berni, 33 Station Road, Dinas Powys – erection of front entrance porch and single storey rear extension.

Mr Gareth Chalk, 14 Cwrt Ty Mawr, Penarth – loft conversion, including raising ridge of existing roof and erection of dormers.

Mr Neil Fox and Mr Mike Caplan-Hill, The Italian Shelter, The Esplanade, Penarth – signage intended to advertise the new restaurant.

Mr A Hayes, 2 Hollywood Close, Highlight Park, Barry – single storey conservatory extension to rear of property and loft conversion with dormer roof to provide additional bedroom/study.

Mr Wells, 39 Park Crescent, Barry – change of use to all-female gymnasium with hours of opening 6am-10pm and associated coffee shop opening 8am-7pm.

Ms N Hall, 4 Bryn Y Mor, West Aberthaw – single and two-storey extension to rear.

Mrs B Weekes, Hillbrow, Colhugh Street, Llantwit Major – Norway Maple Crimmon King: crown clean and reduce and rebalance by 15m. Ash: remove secondary and tertiary branches over roof of next door house (crown removal)

Mr Mike Hillberg, 30 Penlan Road, Llandough – single storey rear extension.

Mrs S Summers, 36 Clinton Road, Penarth – erection of first floor extension to existing granny annex for home business use.

Vale of Glamorgan Council, Fairfield Primary School, Dryden Road, Penarth – erection of monopitch shelter.

Mrs L Davies, 10 Lloyd Avenue, Barry – single storey ground floor extension to form dining room and family room.

Mr Atkins, 120 South Road, Sully – single storey extension to rear.

supply being compliant to Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4.

Mr David Thomas, Newton House Farm, Newton – new combined straw storage and dry bedded cattle in-wintering building.

Mr Wayne Owen, Croes Cwta Farmhouse, Castle Upon Alum – small extension adjoining existing dwelling and outbuilding. To provide new living storage, bedroom accommodation and minor landscaping.

Mr and Mrs Phillips, 7 Lee Close, Dinas Powys – Re-pollard Lime.

Prof N Fisher and Mrs S Fisher, 14 Cwrt-y-Vil Road, Penarth – rear

and side single storey extension and double garage to rear.

Mr Eleri Davies, Pengelli Farmhouse, Prisk, Cowbridge – alterations to residential dwelling, including new detached garage.

Mr Paul Langford, 1 East View, Llandow, Cowbridge – extension and alteration of dwelling.

Mr David and Mrs Dorothy Hayes, Pearlfisher, 10 Somerset View, Sully – erection of single storey extension to rear.

Mr Keith Parfitt, 23 Greave Close, Wenvoe – construct first floor to existing bungalow, double garage to replace existing garage with

new access off Tarris Lane and change of use to garden area.

Mr Christian Pedersen, rear of Unit 42, Vale Business Park, Cowbridge – portal frame shed for drying and storage of wood fuel.

Mr and Mrs D Thomas, Tresaison Cottage, St Mary Hill – two storey extensions to sides and rear and demolition of conservatory.

Mike Thomas, Tithe Barn, Upper Farm, Rhooose Road, Rhooose – single storey duopitch sun lounge to link existing dwelling with detached annexe.

Mr Keith Francis, Sully Sports and Leisure Club, South Road,

Sully – use of existing tarmac area for sports training. Erection of 3.6-metre high fence and seven floodlights on 6-metre high columns.

Dunraven Estates, Dunraven Park gates adjoining Seamount Lodge, Southerndown – replace the existing main gate and missing side gate and posts with new version based on the existing.

Mr VA Randall, 22 Hillside Drive, Cowbridge – two storey extension to rear.

Mr Kevin Blake, 3 Church View Close, Llandough – two storey side extension and dormer window to front.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT, 1990

NOTICE is hereby given that application has been made to the Council for planning permission for the undermentioned developments:

Developments in Conservation Areas

Application No: 2009/00365/FUL
Proposal: Erection of front entrance porch and single storey rear extension
Location: 33, Station Road, Dinas Powys
Conservation Area: Dinas Powys

Application No: 2009/00367/ADV
Proposal: Signage intended to advertise the proposed new restaurant
Location: The Italian Shelter, The Esplanade, Penarth
Conservation Area: Penarth

Application No: 2009/00381/FUL
Proposal: Rear and side single storey extension and double garage to rear
Location: 14, Cwrt-y-Vil Road, Penarth
Conservation Area: Penarth

Application No: 2009/00388/FUL
Proposal: Single storey duo-pitch sun lounge to link existing dwelling with detached annexe
Location: Tithe Barn, Upper Farm, Rhooose Road, Rhooose
Conservation Area: Rhooose

Listed Building Consent

Application No: 2009/00390/LBC
Proposal: Replace the existing main gate and missing side gate and posts with new versions based on the existing Dunraven Park Gates adjoining Seamount Lodge, Southerndown
Location: Grade II

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER, 1995

Application(s) which might affect a Public Right of Way

Application No: 2009/00378/FUL
Proposal: Proposed new combined straw storage and dry bedded cattle in-wintering building
Location: Newton House Farm, Newton

Departure from the Provision of the Development Plan

Application No: 2009/00377/FUL
Proposal: A new two storey 4 bedroom detached house with vehicular access, water and mains supply being compliant to Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4
Location: Westra Lodge, The Westra, Dinas Powys

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 14 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk.

Dated: 30th April, 2009

Rob Thomas

Head of Planning and Transportation

The Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry Docks, Barry, CF63 4RT

www.wattsandmorgan.co.uk
sales@wattsandmorgan.co.uk

WATTS & MORGAN

Cowbridge 01446 773500
Bridgend 01656 644288
Penarth 029 20 712266
also off Grosvenor Square
Mayfair London 020 7408 1400

PROPERTY AUCTION to be held at THE BEAR HOTEL, COWBRIDGE on WEDNESDAY, 27th MAY, 2009 at 7.00 pm



Building Plot, Peterston-Super-Ely
A rare opportunity to acquire a building plot at the sought after Wyndham Park. Consent granted for a unique residence – designed to meet AECB Gold Standards for sustainable energy. Proposed accommodation to include open-plan lounge/dining room/kitchen, utility, shower room, master bedroom with en-suite, three further bedrooms and bathroom.
Guide Price: £195,000 - Telephone 01446 773500



12 Wine Street, Llantwit Major
Retail premises (approx 25.55 sq m or 275 sq ft) plus living accommodation. Situated in the "West End" of the historic town of Llantwit Major.
Retail Area 17'9"x16'3" – Rear Room 17'4"x14'0"
First Floor: Four rooms and a bathroom.
Guide Price £170,000 to £185,000
Telephone 01446 773500

63 New Road, Porthcawl
Double Fronted, 6 Bedroom mid terrace property in need of modernisation.
Long garden with garage space.
Guide Price £130,000 - Telephone: 01656 644288

Land in Llyswoorney, Nr Cowbridge
Approx 7.88 acres together with a block of 5 Stables
Guide Price £130,000 - Telephone: 01446 774152

Land in Llangynwyd, Nr Maesteg
Approx 5.3 acres together with a newly constructed Stable Block and Tack Room
Guide Price £130,000 - Telephone: 01446 774152

Land in Cefn Cribbwr, Nr Bridgend
Approx 6.31 acres Pasture Land and Woodland
Guide Price £TBC - Telephone: 01446 774152

St Lythans House Farm, St Lythans, Cardiff
A 5 bedroom period farmhouse with grounds extending to approx. 2.2 acres.
The property is in need of some renovation.
Guide Price £450,000 - Telephone: 01446 774152

FURTHER ENTRIES INVITED

DELIGHT FOR YOUNG ATHLETES

Vale Karate celebrate five Scottish titles

THE Scottish International Open, held at Edinburgh's Meadowbank stadium, once again lived up to its reputation as one of Britain's biggest events with 800 competitors from 10 countries present.

Saturday was dedicated to all adult and 16 and 17-year-old categories. Only two of Vale Karate's 13-strong squad were therefore in action, but with dramatic results.

Kumite coach Gareth Reynolds, stepping up his preparation for the Senior European Championships, which take place in Zagreb in May, was contesting the high quality under-65kg event.

Gareth fought his way through four rounds to eventually meet England's Paul James in the final.

Like Gareth, Paul is a former British Champion and so a match of quality was assured.

Gareth had the edge in the final to take Wales' first gold medal of the day.

Rhys Davies (16), was entering these championships for the fourth time.

In 2006 he won the under-14 -55kg category. Moving up to the under 16-63 kg in 2007 he was again champion.

His hat-trick of titles came last year, when he was champion in the Under 16 +70kg event.

Now competing in the under-18 +70kg category, his event featured many of Britain's top 16 and 17-year-olds, including Scotland's Craig McDonald and England's Saul Del Rio, both like Rhys having recently represented their countries at the Junior European

Championships in Paris. Remarkably Rhys has not lost to a Briton for well over a year and kept that statistic intact as he smoothly progressed to the final where he beat Del Rio 7-1.

Sunday was dedicated to the children's events and once again Vale Karate were in the thick of the action.

Chloe Fry (nine), and eight-year-old Kloe Christoforato have met several times in Kata finals but never at such a huge event.

However, the possibility of an all-Vale final became a reality as Kloe beat an English girl, and Chloe an Armenian, in their respective semi-finals.

In the final, Chloe was judged to have the edge to give her the title.

She later proved her all-round ability by winning the under-10 girls Kumite event! Kloe again underlined her potential by taking a Kumite bronze.

Luke Davies, who took the gold medal in the under-16 -52kg category, won Vale Karate's fifth title of the weekend.

Leah Copeland, in her second tournament since her individual Kumite comeback, won a silver in the Girls 13-15 -48kg event.

Nick Sherrin earned a bronze in the 10-11 -45kg category, and Bradley Christoforato took a well deserved bronze in the 10-12 boys Kata event.

In the 10-12 boys team event, the Welsh Karate Bushi-kai's Tom O'Leary stepped in alongside Bradley and Lewis, helping Vale Karate to another bronze medal.



ABOVE:
Kloe Christoforato and
Chloe Fry.

THE new summer term started last Monday (April 20) and, because of the ever greater time demands of the external examination system, pupils in the Cardiff & Vale Schools district are pitched straight into track and field action.

The association held its annual general meeting right at the end of last term and there was one significant change in the officers.

Mrs Kath Elias, a member of the Llantwit PE department from 1994 to her retirement in summer 2007, has been associated with local schools athletics organisations since the late 1960s, and since the formation of the Cardiff & Vale district in April 1996, she was chairman for the first five years. She followed that up, from 2001, by taking on the post of General Secretary.

At the 2009 AGM, Mrs Elias stood down and was replaced by former international hurdler Rachel King, who teaches at Cardiff High.

The Vale schools still contribute to the association's key personnel with Mr Rob Graves (St Cyres) continuing as chairman and staff from Bro Morgannwg, Cowbridge, Llantwit, St Richard Gwyn and Stanwell sitting on the executive committee.

There are five weeks before half-term and local pupils will be involved in a different activity every week.

On April 22, the Senior Cup Final, a fixture for pupils in year-11

and above, was held at the replacement athletics stadium at Leckwith, named the Cardiff International Sports Stadium.

That fixture is the first track and field competition at the new stadium – and the schools' association was very much a test body of the stadium's capabilities, as it holds three of the first four fixtures.

Since 2000, two Vale schools have enjoyed considerable success at the Senior Cup Final.

Cowbridge have won the boys' competition six times and the girls' section once, while Llantwit, under the guidance of Mrs Elias, won the senior girls' trophy on a history-breaking four consecutive occasions.

The Cowbridge boys were hoping for a third consecutive victory but they would have to make that progress without the inspirational leadership of Mr Hugh Williams, who retired last summer.

Although Llantwit were organising this year's event, their girls are going through a rebuilding process and were not expected to win. St Cyres and Bro Morgannwg were also due to compete, with the Colcot Road expected to figure prominently.

This was followed by the senior championships for sixth formers, held on yesterday (Wednesday, April 29) with the middle championships, for pupils in year-10 and year-11, on the following day (today), both at new Leckwith.

Although these are early season fixtures, performances will have a major bearing on the selection of the Cardiff & Vale team for the Welsh

VALE OF GLAMORGAN DISTRICT under-15s CARDIFF A

34
15

THE coaching staff and team management would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Vale under-15 rugby squad on the fantastic performance in the National Schools Rugby Competition (Amdahl Bowl) on Saturday, April 25 at St Helens, Swansea.

The Vale managed to secure a 34-15 win over Cardiff A with what can only be described as the best performance of the season.

The squad certainly

kept the best to last and ensured that the trophy travelled home to the Vale for 2008/09.

A special thanks goes to Tom Perry, who captained the team this sea-

son, and to Zak Deere, who has been pack leader.

All squad players should be very proud of their performance in the final, and throughout the season, as they have been fine ambassadors for the Vale of Glamorgan District and the associated schools

they represent.

Details of this match and other related features for the season can be found at the following web site kindly supported by Barry Boys Comprehensive School www.barrycomp.com/va/lerugby.

HUW DAVIES
(Under-15 coach)



ABOVE: The team pose with the trophy.

Looking forward to the Cardiff and Vale Schools summer athletic programme

Schools' national championships, on July 4.

The Combined Events championships, for seniors (sixth form), middles and juniors (years-8 and year-9) are being staged on May 6.

Last year, because the fixture was held at Jenner Park, which only has one high jump bed, some age group competitions had to be held over only four events, rather than the usual pentathlons.

The return of the fixture to Leckwith means that all competitions will be pentathlons.

However, a record number of just under 200 pupils competed at Jenner last year, and that may be hard act to match this time.

There is a break from schools' track and field action in the week beginning Monday, May 11, but the association marks the end of the winter season with the staging of the annual Cross-Country Presentation Evening at a Barry venue on the evening of Tuesday, May 12.

The final week before half term sees action at Jenner Park with three qualifying matches for the under-15s (year-8 and year-9).

At each fixture, the leading six athletes in each event will progress through to the 18 athlete finals meeting, which will be held at Leckwith on the Tuesday after half term, June 2.

With the senior, middle and junior championships completed, the second week after half term is taken up with six under-14 (year-7 and year-8) and under-16 (year-9 and year-10) cup matches, with the winning schools in each section qualifying for the A

Cup Final on Tuesday, June 16, and the second placed schools taking part in the B Cup Final on Thursday, June 18, both at Jenner Park.

The A Cup Finals are particularly important because they are qualifiers for the NASUWT Cymru Welsh Schools Finals at Brecon on July 8.

The Cardiff & Vale winners take part in the NASUWT Cup Final while the second place schools contest the Plate Final.

No Vale schools qualified for the Welsh finals in 2008, but Bro Morgannwg created history in 2007 by winning three of the four Welsh Finals, the first time that a school has won more than two sections on the same day.

In past years, the final Cardiff & Vale championships, for year-7 pupils, has been held as an all-day event, starting at 10 am and finishing at 5 pm.

That pattern will be broken this year with separate afternoon competitions being held for boys and girls.

The boys will be in action at Jenner Park on Wednesday, June 24, with the girls competing at the same venue on Tuesday, June 30.

Sandwiched between those two year-7 competitions are the first of the Welsh Schools championships – the combined events, which will be held for the first time at the university track off the Mumbles Road in Swansea.

Cardiff & Vale team managers, Mr Rhys Beynon (Bro Morgannwg) and Miss Sarah Barry (Cowbridge), will be

hoping to field a record size squad of more than fifty athletes, and are looking to better the two team titles, senior girls and junior boys, which were won in 2008 at Carmarthen.

As Barry year-11 pupil Curtis Matthews showed when he finished second in the middle boys section on that occasion, a good performance at this meeting can lead to international honours at the SIAB indoor combined events international at Glasgow in December.

The second Welsh Schools' championships, the 62nd national track and field championships, will be held at new Leckwith on Saturday, July 4.

It will be the first time that the event has been staged in the city since 2001 and, if the Cardiff & Vale Schools offer to 'host' is accepted, it will be the first time that the association has undertaken that role under its current format as a district.

When the 48th Nationals were held at old Leckwith in 1995, it was South Glamorgan Schools' Athletics Association which was the hosting body.

For the first time since the late 90s, the event will also have a commercial sponsor, with insurance group AVIVA backing this event and the national cross-country championships in February for a four year period leading up to the 2012 Olympics.

Although the Nationals are a very important team competition – with Dyfed and Cardiff & the Vale usually being the lead candidates for the overall points trophy – it also provides an important

stepping stone for individuals on the pathway to Welsh and GB international honours at under-20 and senior levels.

This year, the spotlight will be firmly on the under-17 age group (year-10 and year-11) as, for financial reasons, there are no under-20 internationals planned.

Welsh Schools has two major competition for that under-17 age group. On Saturday, July 18, the top two Welsh athletes in each event will be competing in a full track and field programme against the best pupils from All-Ireland Schools, English Schools and Scottish Schools at the SIAB international in Ulster.

The final international fixture, the athletics element of the fourth UK School Games, will be held at new Leckwith over the weekend of September 5-6.

The UK School Games, hosted by Swansea, Cardiff and Newport, will be the biggest multi-sports competition to be held in Wales since the 1958 Empire and Commonwealth Games were staged at the old Cardiff Arms Park.

In addition to the opportunities for competitors, it will require a huge army of local volunteers and will provide a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for spectators to come and watch pupils, some of whom are likely to go on to make their mark at senior international level on the world stage in years to come.

PETER MORRIS



Luke Davies.



Rhys Davies.

UNDER-12s IN CUP FINAL CLASSIC!



ABOVE: The Tondy under 12 squad line up for their cup final picture.

THIS under-12 Ospreys final between two Bridgend district clubs, Tondy and Bridgend Athletic, was a pulsating, thrilling encounter worthy of any tournament finale between the two best teams in the region at this age group.

The Athletic began the stronger and won an abundance of early possession in the Tondy half, and stretched the Tondy defence with some strong penetrating runs.

The Tondy backline

tackled well out wide but the Athletic were rewarded for their early pressure with the first try of the game. The ball went through several phases of play within the Tondy 22, with the Ath forwards recycling well.

An overlap developed and the Ath executed a neat passing movement, creating space for their winger Harry Davies to touch down near the corner flag. This try was converted by Rory Nicholls.

Tondy came back strongly, their pack making strong runs into the Athletic half and were soon back on even terms.

Ashley Baker and Ben Jones made strong runs

before the ball was recycled near the Athletic line, and Lewis Austin was on hand to pick up and drive over from close range. The try was converted by Rhydian Jenkins.

Tondy had their tails up and, galvanised by the equalising score, began to get the upper hand in the territory and possession stakes. The Ath were heroic in defence and looked as if they would soak up the pressure before half-time.

However, after some strong runs yet again from the pack, Tondy recycled possession effectively near the Ath's 22 before the ball was spread out into centre

field, and eventually to their wing Ieuan Evans, who had the gas to cross near the corner flag. The try was converted by Ashley Baker.

Half-time score: Tondy 14 Bridgend Athletic 7

It was Tondy who started the second half the brighter and won field position inside the Athletic half. Again, they used their forwards to make ground into the Athletic 22. Eventually, the pressure told when the ball was gathered by Cole Lewis from the breakdown and he was able to evade fringe tacklers, showing pace and strength to cross under the posts from the 22-metre line. The try was converted by Ashley Baker.

Although two scores down, the Ath refused to panic. Despite losing their No 10 Rory Nicholls with an injury requiring stitches, they stuck to their patterns of play.

The Athletic were awarded a penalty near the halfway line and the ball was quickly spread to the wing, exposing the



Bridgend Athletic under 12 squad.

Tondy defence. Tomos Pritchard showed his pace, side-stepping his way around defenders to run 50 metres down the wing and cross under the posts. Matthew Ellis converted and the Ath knew they still had time to claw their way back.

Tondy looked tired and made changes as the Ath, sensing they could still win the Cup, re-gathered possession from the kick-off and were soon back in Tondy territory. That important try duly came, the Athletic front five looking the fitter to

arrive at the breakdown in numbers, and an overlap developed on the Tondy 22 and great passing under pressure from scrum-half to wing Harry Davies, meant he was able to outstretch his opposing wing to cross near the corner flag.

The pressure on Matthew Ellis to slot the conversion and tie the scores was massive, but the kick was expertly converted and the scores were level going into the final five minutes of this exciting match.

Tondy mounted one

last assault on the Athletic's line from the re-start. The Tondy forwards recycled possession well at the contact area and they ran hard into the heart of the Ath defence, which remained resolute.

Under Ospreys Cup rules, the trophy is shared so spoils were even on the day.

This was a great game and both teams deserve the plaudits. The Ath had started and ended the game strongly, mounting a defiant comeback, while it was Tondy who

bossed the middle part of the game.

Both sets of players had given everything for their clubs, and the game had been a spectacle for the hundreds of supporters present in sunshine at The Gnoll.

Final score: Tondy 21 Bridgend Athletic 21

Please email your match reports to: ggem@internet-today.co.uk

GEM QUIZ LEAGUE ROUND-UP

Llangewydd buck the trend and stay off the bottom!

AS we enter the last week of the League's 36th season we can feel justly proud of the overall standard.

In Division 1 nine of the 11 teams averaged 40 or more, while in the second division it was eight. On Monday, April 20, Royal Oak Nomads managed their 19th win out of 20, despite being behind for a good while against Royal Oak Royals. Score was 48-41.

Colliers Arms were weakened just enough by work commitments to go down against Maesteg Catholic Club 'A' by 40-35. This means there will have to be a play-off between them and Oldcastle 'A' for second place as Oldcastle won 47-40 at Mackworth Arms.

Maesteg's 'B' team beat Tondy Railway Club by 38-35, so will not be bottom on their own as Oldcastle 'B' were beaten 38-35 at home to Aberkenfig Social Club, who thus share fourth place with the Maesteg 'A' team.

In Division 2 Prince of Wales 'A' celebrated their top place finish with a 51-45 win at Pheasant Gamekeepers, and Llangenor AFC did likewise as runners-up by winning 49-47 at Heol-y-Cyw RFC.

Laleston Inn Oldies just failed to

hold off Five Bells and lost 46-45. Pheasant Poachers go joint third with Five Bells by their 46-42 win at Prince of Wales 'B'.

Last, but not least, well done Llangewydd Arms! In their first season, when most teams are expected to, and do, finish bottom, they got three places above that by winning 48-42 at Pyle RFC.

Here are your weekly posers:

- 1) Which Victorian author had a pet raven called 'Grip'?
- 2) What term is used for radio active particles deposited in the atmosphere after a nuclear accident or explosion?
- 3) Name the Irish cyclist who won the 1987 Tour de France?
- 4) Which now popular tabloid newspaper was originally intended for a female readership and was launched in November 1902?

**A RUDGE
Hon Sec, BGQL**

QUIZ ANSWERS:
1. Charles Dickens.
2. Fall out.
3. Stephen Roche.
4. Daily Mirror.

Porthcawl under-8s play in Ospreyia!

PORTHCAWL under-8s played Aberavon Greenstars at the Liberty Stadium at half time, where the Ospreys were playing Edinburgh.

The team had an opportunity to meet some players and a good time was had by both players and parents. The under-8s played in front of a big crowd narrowly losing to a last minute

try.

A much improved Porthcawl pulled out all the stops for a final score of Porthcawl 2, Aberavon Greenstars 3.

Porthcawl squad: Morgan Roberts, Iwan Power, Joshua Lewis, Matthew Adams, William James, Oliver Jones, Ryan Jones, Samuel Stradling, McKenzie Randall, Michael Walters, Daniel Watson, and Thomas Williams.

PORTHCAWL Mermaids Netball Club is a splinter club of Porthcawl Athletic, which started in January 2009 and has become very successful in a short space of time.

Within two weeks there were 30 girls registered and it has slowly progressed to nearly 50 girls between the ages of seven-11 years.

The club is primarily run by Danielle Ulberini, (21), currently studying to become a primary school teacher at the University of Wales, Newport. Miss Ulberini is also supported by four other coaches from the local area who are also CRB checked and hold the First Aid certificate.

Head coach, Danielle Ulberini, said: "I'm so lucky to have been given this opportunity by Porthcawl Athletic, as I get the chance to com-

bine my two passions: netball and teaching.

"I have a fantastic group of girls to work with once a week who have parents that are supportive of the club. I would like to thank the parents and committee members: Ceri Marlow,

John Nelson, Pat Farrow, Tony Ulberini, and Mike Crofts for all their support.

"Everyone at Porthcawl Athletic and Mermaids netball would like to thank St Clare's School for their support in allowing the

Mermaids to use their outdoor courts during the exam period to allow the children of Porthcawl to continue to play netball".

In September Porthcawl Mermaids Netball Club will be joining the Rhondda Valleys Netball League,

where they will play competitive netball against girls of their age.

If anyone is interested in sponsoring a team kit for the 2009/10 season, contact Danielle Ulberini on (01656) 772918/07811040590/danielleulberini@sky.co.uk

m



ABOVE: The Porthcawl Mermaids have had a successful start to their life.

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The LifeStyle Porthkerry Plod has cemented its place as a highlight of the local sporting calendar with over 150 runners tackling this year's race.

Now in its fourth year, the five-mile event challenged club and novice runners to race around a multi-terrain course at Porthkerry Park in Barry that takes in fields, hills, roads, woodlands and coastal paths.

The Plod was sponsored by the Vale of Glamorgan Council's LifeStyle health and fitness gyms, based at the leisure centres in Barry, Penarth, Cowbridge and Llantwit Major. LifeStyle operations manager Jonathan Rogers said: "We enjoyed welcoming entrants into our gyms as part of their training for the Plod and hope we helped to give them a bit of extra endurance to get up those hills!"

Penarth and Dinas Runners is a small but enthusiastic group of runners of all abilities based at Penarth leisure centre, and new runners are always welcome. For details, please visit www.penarthand-dinasrunners.org.uk.

Romilly bowlers get in groove for new season

BARRY Romilly Bowling Club started their new season with the club captain Brian Foscolo calling all members together on Saturday to welcome the new members to the club.

He set the challenge for the day's match, the club team vs the A team, on five rinks and 21 ends. On a cloudy day with a few short showers, the players took to the new season green with relish and some surprising results were the outcome. Alan Bryan's rink of H Jones, R Hewitson and J Jones had a big win

against Bryn Gough's team of D Cameron, R Smallcombe and B Jones, with 29-12.

B Wyatt's team of A Bumford, A Burge and G Rees, also had a big win with a pair of 5s on the way against Alf Woolcock's team of D Ford, A Dobbs and P Herbert, with a score of 29-17.

Brian Foscolo's rink of M Newman, D Bannister and M Doyle, won their rink against Bill Hewitt's team of D Knight, K Westgate and G Whittaker by 18-13.

D Wright's rink of A Freeman, R Harkus and A Jones, against Brian Cheal's team of G Eastmont J Coles and C

Davies had a tight finish after the A team led from the start to the 17th end.

The club side then drew level on the 18th, and were then two up on the 20th. However, the A side then secured a 2 on the last, for a 17-17 draw.

Clive Collins' rink of C Geen, P Gershenson and M Gershenson had a nightmare of a game, going down 10-26 against Vince McFarlands rink of P Hoad, T Bloomfield and K Clements.

Vince's team led from start to finish, whose score included a 5 and a 4 for a fine result.

RH

Championship glory for under-18s Crusaders dig for victory against the Leigh Miners

CELTIC CRUSADERS under-18s are the Gillette National Youth League Champions after beating last year's winners, Leigh Miners Rangers, 32-0 in the Grand Final at Widnes on Sunday.

It was a feeling of déjà vu for the Welshmen, last year's Rugby League Conference National Colts side from Bridgend having fol-

lowed the same route to glory, in a near identical performance to claim the title.

For 20 minutes it was anybody's game but once Celtic had made the breakthrough, momentum was theirs and Rangers found it impossible to cope.

The sole score in the early stages was a penalty to Celtic, Alex Webber taking the two points on offer.

Crusaders forced a drop out and from the second tackle Kyle Blackmore, Steve Williams and Alex Herbert swept the ball wide for the irrepressible Webber to post the first try.

The Welsh winger also bagged the only other points of the first half when Rangers were penalised for a high tackle in the 33rd minute, making it 8-0 at the break.

Two minutes into the second half, Anthony Symmonds' superb pass sent Dan Godwin scuttling round to the posts, with Webber converting, and he was then on hand for the game breaking score, racing on to Dafydd Carter's long kick.

Webber missed the conversion to his own try but kicked a penalty in the 53rd minute.

CELTIC CRUSADERS 32
LEIGH MINERS RANGERS 0

From the re-start, Hywel Lloyd split the cover and Blackmore loomed up in support on the inside, Webber converting.

Five minutes from time, Webber completed a magnificent individual performance when he went over for his hat-trick try, his conversion seeing him end with 24 of his side's points.

Crusaders' head coach, Stuart Williams, was understandably delighted by his side's

efforts. "It was an outstanding, committed performance by our lads," he commented.

"The work we have put in over the last couple of months has paid off and it all came together today".

Crusaders' head of youth performance, Andy Lindley, said: "This was a fantastic result for us, especially as we beat a Leigh side that hadn't lost in over a year".

"We're delighted to

have won the title as it was the result of a long season where we've worked extremely hard".

Crusaders: Nathan Davies, Alex Webber, Dalton Grant, Alex Herbert, Dan Godwin, Dafydd Carter, Steve Williams, Joe Burke, Kyle Blackmore, Anthony Symmonds, Hywel Lloyd, Phil Smith, Mark Wool. Subs (all used): Chris Davies, Nathan Hawkins, Josh Davidson, Kristian Hawkes.

Tries: Webber (18, 44, 65), Godwin (37), Blackmore (54).
Goals: Webber 6.



ABOVE: The team celebrate their victory.



ABOVE: Raising the trophy.

Mules win against prop-less Maesteg

KENFIG HILL FIRSTS
v MAESTEG HARLEQUINS

THE game was effectively finished as a spectacle when the Quins elected to start with passive scrums due to a front row injury crisis.

Also, Kenfig Hill star winger Steve Shalders started the game on the subs bench, due to a slight groin strain.

The Quins opened the scoring with a penalty by outside half Gareth Lewis.

Kenfig Hill then replied with a try by full back Rhys Williams who showed his pace to finish off a good passing move by the Kenfig backs, with centre and captain Rhodri Clark converting. Centre Derwyn Rees then added a try, the attempted conversion sailing wide of the posts.

Right winger Alun Brace then added to his growing reputation as a speedy winger by scorching up the tramlines to score, the conversion coming from Clark.

Kenfig scores came after they were handi-capped by a red card to hooker Neil Billingham and a yellow card for number 8 Steve Gillard. Half time: Kenfig Hill 19, Maesteg Quins 3.

The second half was a dreary affair with the Quins scoring a try and Clark putting over a penalty for the Mules. Second row Scott Richards then received Kenfig Hill's second red card for a reason that was not immediately apparent.

Final score: Kenfig Hill 22, Maesteg Quins 8.

GOOD MID WEEK WIN

KENFIG HILL Firsts defeated high flying Skewen in a mid-week encounter

Scorers: Kenfig Hill: Steve Shalders (two tries); Nicky Giles (one try, two conversions, one penalty goal).

Final score: Kenfig Hill Firsts 25, Skewen 20.

KENFIG HILL SECONDS
v LLANTWIT MAJOR

THIS was another fine win for the table-topping second team by 36-8.

Kenfig Hill winger, David Williams scored two tries. Mark Jenkins, Lloyd Smith, Steven Williams and Marc Fitzgerald also scored tries, with Owen Attwood adding three conversions.

Number 8 Gareth Russell was man of the match for Kenfig Hill in what was a good all round team performance.

Kenfig Hill now play local rivals Pyle in the league play-off, to be held in Maesteg.

THE Youth went to

KENFIG HILL YOUTH
v BELFAST HARLEQUINS

Belfast for a weekend tour and rounded off a good time by defeating a highly rated Belfast Harlequins 24-12.

Kenfig Hill scored four tries by Ashley Hicky, Lewis Morgan, Chris Leyshon and Josh Davies, with Davies also putting over two conversions.

KENFIG HILL/CORNELLY YOUTH
v BRIDGEND ATHLETIC

THIS was another top drawer performance by Kenfig Hill, defeating the Athletic 29-21.

Luke Richard scored two fine individual tries. Shaun Burnell scored a try and Josh Davies capped a good all round display with a try, three conversions and a penalty.

Dan Wright was man-of-the-match for Kenfig Hill with Tom Briggs having an outstanding game for the backs.

KENFIG HILL UNDER-7S
v GILFACH GOCH

IN an excellent game of end to end rugby, Kenfig Hill's experienced under-7s came out on top. The game was played at a very high tempo, and the tagging was exceptional from both teams.

Some lovely tries were scored. The handling and support work are something the young Mules have been working on this season and it really is coming into effect. Two tries apiece for Alex Underhill, Oliver Pinches and Jack Davies were the names that went into the book, but some outstanding tagging from Connor John, Mark Underhill Ben Evans and Rhys Perry ultimately won the game for Kenfig Hill.

Final score: Kenfig Hill Under-7s 6, Gilfach Goch 4.

KENFIG HILL UNDER-8S
v GILFACH GOCH

THIS game was the last for coach Matthew Brace after three years with the under-8s as he moves up to the under-9s next season, but the young team put on a marvellous show of attacking and defensive skill.

Again their support work, handling and commitment was outstanding. For a period of the game, Gilfach were struggling to make it 30 metres due to the intense tagging of the young Mules.

A hat-trick from captain Connor Brace, two outstanding individual tries from Connor

Farnham, Jack Underhill, and a brilliant team effort resulting in Leon Jones taking the final pass to race clear of the defence will again be the names going into the book, but some ferocious tagging from birthday boy Correy Bower, Cameron Jenkins, Sion Jones and Dante Phillips helped set the game up nicely for Kenfig Hill.

Coach Matthew Brace would like to thank all the players he has helped coach over the past three years for making it an experience to remember. **Final score: Kenfig Hill Under-8s 6, Gilfach Goch 2.**

KENFIG HILL UNDER-7S
v MAESTEG WELSH

Score: Kenfig Hill 8, Maesteg 6.

Tries: Jack Davies (four), Cam Trehar (two), Oliver Pinches, Ben Evans.

KENFIG HILL UNDER-8S
v MAESTEG WELSH

The final score in this game was Kenfig Hill 5, Maesteg 4.

Tries were scored by Connor Brace (two), Connor Farnham, Jack Underhill, Leon Jones. **Reports collated by Gerald O'Sullivan.**

Coity keep title hopes alive

COITY CRUSADERS kept their hopes of title glory alive in the Bridgend Sunday Leisure League, as Chris Thomas helped them to a crushing 11-2 drubbing of The Bluebirds.

Ryan Evans took the plaudits for AC Brackla in a 9-2 demolition of Racing Inter, while rivals Brack La eased through 4-0 against Day Sleepers thanks to the efforts of Ben Thomas.

David Jones starred for FC08 in their thrilling 3-3 draw with Celts, and Chris Sparks ensured Mean Machine were 3-0 victors over Hangover Heroes.

Anyone interested in joining the Bridgend League, can call 0845 230 2340 or visit www.leisureleagues.net.

Celtic Crusaders' reserves tame the Castleford Tigers

RESERVE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP
CELTIC CRUSADERS 34
CASTLEFORD TIGERS 24

IN a day of unusual weather Celtic Crusaders reserves gave their first team inspiration as they earned their second win of the season in an exciting encounter with Castleford Tigers.

Crusaders went into a 16-0 lead after only 10 minutes.

Some good pressure and a break from Steve Tyrer led to Chris Vitalini putting Lee Williams in next to the sticks.

An easy goal for Tyrer made the score 6-0. From kick-off a fantastic drive to the line by Ben Flower resulted in an easy scoot over for Tom Burnell which Tyrer duly converted.

More strong running from Flower resulted in Tyrer shimmying his way to the line four minutes later. However, this time he was unable to add the extras.

Castleford managed a try back in the 18th minute, a good kick was pounced on by Josh Atkinson in the corner, although the conversion was missed.

Nine minutes later it was 16-8, Atkinson going over for his second.

The visitors drew first blood in the second period, scoring after 10 minutes, Scott Turner breaking the line to score out wide, converting it himself.

Tibbs crossed the line on 55 minutes for the Crusaders.

A great break and offload by Jordan James allowed the youngster to sprint from his own half to score out wide.

The Crusaders scored again on the hour, some good play finding Steve Tyrer with an easy step around his opposite number for a simple dive over out wide.

A good conversion by Tyrer made the score 26-14

A clever kick on the last tackle from the next set by Elliot Kear allowed Ross Wardle to touch down in the corner.

Four minutes later, Williams was in for his second, and the team's seventh try. Lloyd White missed the conversion.

The Tigers did manage two tries in the last 10 minutes, as a wind assisted kick bounced over the deadball line and from the drop out, Richard Jones set up Adam Fairhead, who squeezed over from dummy half.

Scott Turner missed the goal and the score remained at 34-18.

In the final minutes, Turner touched down next to posts, converting it himself.

Crusaders: Lee Williams, Ashley Bateman, Steve Tyrer, Loren Quick, Jamie Tibbs, Elliot Kear, Lloyd White, Jordan James, Tom Burnell, Ben Flower, Ross Wardle, Lewis Mills, Chris Vitalini. Subs: Gil Dudson, Harri Greville, Barrie Phillips, Adam Davies.

Tries: Williams (3, 68), Burnell (6), Tyrer (10, 60), Tibbs (55), Wardle (64)
Goals: Tyrer 3/6, White 0/1.

UNDER-16s
CELTIC CRUSADERS 10
WIDNES VIKINGS 60

Youth suffer against Vikings EARLIER in the day, Celtic Crusaders under-16s took to the field for the very first time and went down 10-60 to a skilful and experienced Widnes Vikings side.

The Crusaders scored one try in each half, Sam McComb in the opening period and Josh Ramsey, younger brother of the Arsenal midfielder Aaron, with a breakthrough try near to the end of the game which was converted by Liam Harris.

Crusaders under-16s assistant coach, Wayne Williams, said: "This was a learning experience for all of our lads".

"There were a lot of good individual performances, which showed promise and we're going to get better."

"This is a brand new team and despite the scoreline, this was a good first outing for us."

IAN GOLDEN

Junior rugby festival

PORHCRAWL RFC recently hosted the Bridgend County District Rugby Festival at under-13 and under-14 level.

Clubs from across the county were in attendance for a full day of rugby.

Teams included Bridgend Sports, Tondur, Kenfig Hill, Bridgend Athletic, Garw Valley, Bryncethin, Porthcawl, and Nantaffylon. The under-12 age group played during the morning, and under-13s in the afternoon.

Porthcawl Panthers under-12s had a successful festival, scoring 14 tries and conceding one. Scorers included Joe Downes, Cory Gardiner, Joseph Jones, Gareth Evans-Rees, Callum Wooton, Zachary Jones, Jack Power and Rob Ellis.

MF

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05	55 FIESTA 2.0 ST 3-dr. Half leather, face lift	£6995
05	05 FIESTA 1.4 TDCi Zetec Climate 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£5695
08	08 FUSION 1.4 TDCi Plus 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£8795
08	58 FOCUS 1.6 TDCi Style Estate 5-dr. a/c, cd, electrics	£10995
08	08 FOCUS 1.6 Titanium 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd, electrics	£10495
08	08 FOCUS 1.6 Titanium 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd, privacy glass	£9995
08	08 FOCUS 1.6 TDCi Style 5-dr. a/c, cd, electrics	£9995
08	08 FOCUS 1.8 Zetec 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd, electrics	£9995
08	57 FOCUS 1.6 Style 5-dr. Sport pack, bluetooth, a/c, cd	£7795
07	57 FOCUS 1.8 Style 5-dr. Sports pack, a/c, cd	£7995
06	06 FOCUS 1.6 LX 5-dr. a/c, cd, electrics	£6295
06	56 FOCUS 1.6 LX Estate 5-dr. a/c, cd, electrics	£5795

06	06 FUSION 1.6 Zetec Auto 5-dr. a/c, cd, alloys	£7295
06	06 FOCUS 1.6 LX 5-dr Auto. a/c, cd, electrics	£6295
06	06 FOCUS 1.6 LX 5-dr Auto. a/c, cd, electrics	£6495
06	06 FOCUS 1.6 Zetec Climate Auto 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£6495
06	06 FOCUS 1.6 Sport Estate Auto. Alloys, a/c, cd	£6495
06	06 C-MAX 2.0 Zetec Auto. Alloys, a/c, cd, choice	£6995
06	55 FIESTA 1.4 Zetec Climate Auto 3-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£6295
06	55 FOCUS 2.0 Ghia 5-dr Auto. Alloys, cd, cruise	£6995
06	55 C-MAX 2.0 Ghia Auto 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£7295
99	T VW Golf 1.6 Auto 5-dr. Full electrics	£2695

CONVERTIBLES

09	09 FOCUS CC3 2.0. Black, cream leather luxury pack	£14995
09	09 FOCUS 2.0 TDCi CC2. Alloys, aa/c, cd, choice	£14495
09	09 FOCUS 2.0 CC2. Alloys, a/c, cd, black, black/red interior	£13495
06	06 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Design. Alloys, cd, a/c	£8995

OTHERS

08	58 RENAULT Twingo 1.2 16v Dynamique 3-dr. Alloys, a/c	£6995
08	08 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.6 Life 5-dr. a/c, cd, electrics	£8295
08	08 TOYOTA Aygo 1.0 VVTi 5-dr. Blue, a/c, bluetooth	£7495
07	57 PEUGEOT 308 1.6S 5-dr. a/c, electrics	£8495



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01 51 CHRYSLER PT Cruiser 2.0 Ltd 5-dr
a/c, cd, full leather



£8995

08 08 FUSION 1.4 Zetec Auto 5-dr
a/c, cd, alloys, tonic blue



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C-MAX 1.8 TDCi Zetec 5-dr
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08 08 FOCUS 1.6 TDCi Style
a/c, cd, alloys, vision blue

05	55 FOCUS 2.0 Ghia 4-dr. Alloys, a/c, park assist	£6495
05	55 FOCUS 2.0 TDCi Ghia 4-dr. Alloys, a/c, park assist	£6995
05	05 FOCUS 1.6 Zetec Climate 5-dr. a/c, alloys, cd	£5995
04	04 FOCUS 1.6 Ghia 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£4495
04	04 FOCUS 1.6 LX 5-dr. a/c, alloys, cd	£3995
02	02 FOCUS 1.6 CL 5-dr. cd, park assist	£3495
08	08 C-MAX 1.8 TDCi Zetec 5-dr. Sport pack, a/c, cd	£10995
08	57 C-MAX 1.8 TDCi Titanium 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£10995
06	06 C-MAX 1.6 TDCi Zetec 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£6995
06	06 C-MAX 1.6 Zetec 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£6995
08	08 MONDEO 2.0 TDCi Titanium 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£14495
08	08 MONDEO 1.8 TDCi Titanium X 5-dr. Sat nav, climate	£13995
05	05 MONDEO 2.0 TDCi 130 LX 5-dr. a/c, cd, cruise	£5995
05	05 MONDEO 1.8 LX 5-dr. a/c, cd, cruise	£4995
03	53 MONDEO 1.8 LX 5-dr. a/c, cd, electrics	£3495
07	07 S-MAX 1.8 TDCi LX 5-dr. 7-seats, park assist	£12495

AUTOMATICS

08	08 FOCUS 1.6 Zetec Auto 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£9995
08	08 MONDEO 2.3 Edge Auto 5-dr. c/d, a/c, electric	£10995
08	08 FUSION 1.4 Zetec Auto 5-dr. a/c, cd, alloys	£8995
08	57 MONDEO 2.3 Edge Estate Auto. Sat nav, park assist	£11995
08	57 MONDEO 2.0 TDCi Titanium Auto 5-dr. fully loaded	£13995
06	06 FIESTA 1.6 Ghia 5-dr Auto. Alloys, a/c, cd, full electrics	£7295

07	07 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Expression 3-dr. a/c, cd	£6495
07	07 VAUXHALL Meriva 1.3 CDTi Life. a/c, electrics, cd	£7995
07	07 PEUGEOT 207 1.4 Sport 5-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£7495
06	56 VW Touran 1.9 TDi S 5-dr. 7 seats, alloys, a/c	£8995
06	06 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Twintop Design. a/c, cd	£8995
06	06 TOYOTA Yaris 1.0 T3 3-dr. a/c, cd, electrics	£5995
06	06 CITROEN Picasso 1.6 HDi MPV Desire. Full electrics	£6495
06	06 CITROEN Picasso 1.6 HDi Exclusive. Climate, alloys	£6695
06	06 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 SXI + 3-dr. Half leather, a/c, cd	£5995
06	06 NISSAN Note 1.4 SE 5-dr. a/c, cd, alloys	£6495
06	06 RENAULT Modus 1.4 Dynamique 5-dr. cd, a/c	£4995
05	55 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Sport 3-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd	£4495
04	04 PEUGEOT 206 1.4S 5-dr. a/c, alloys, cd	£4495
05	05 RENAULT Scenic 1.9 DCi Dynamique 6-speed. a/c, cd	£6495
05	54 RENAULT Laguna 1.9 DCi 120PS. a/c, cd, alloys	£4495
05	54 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3 3-dr. a/c, alloys	£4295
04	54 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0 Life 3-dr. cd, electrics, choice	£3995
04	04 VW Polo 1.2S 3-dr. a/c, cd, electrics	£4295
03	03 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Look 3-dr. a/c, electrics	£3495
02	02 PEUGEOT 307 1.4 HDi LX 5-dr. a/c, £35 to tax	£3495
02	02 RENAULT Laguna 1.8 5-dr Expression. a/c, alloys, cd	£2495
01	51 CHRYSLER PT Cruiser 2.0 Ltd 5-dr. a/c, cd, leather	£3995
01	Y MAZDA Premacy 1.8 Atlantis 5-dr. cd, a/c, electrics	£2995



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09 09 FOCUS 2.0i CC 2 Black, convertible



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08 08 C-MAX 1.8 TDCi Zetec 5-dr MPV.
a/c, cd



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- 07 07 BMW 320D SE 4-dr Automatic Saloon. In titanium silver with anthracite interior cruise control, automatic air con, multifunction leather steering wheel, rear parking sensors, only 29,440 miles £16,995
- 06 06 BMW 320D 2.0TD SE 4-dr Saloon. Seagrey with anthracite interior, blue tooth, rear parking sensors, alloys, CD, only 21,489 miles £14,995
- 05 05 BMW 2.0 320i SE 4-dr Saloon. In Monaco blue with Dakota grey leather interior, automatic air con, multifunction steering wheel, rear parking sensors, sunroof, only 29,025 miles £12,495
- 52 52 BMW 320i 2.0 2-Door Convertible. In titanium silver with black montana leather interior, hard top in titanium silver, automatic air con, cruise control, CD, rear parking sensors, only 23,425 miles £11,995
- 04 53 BMW 320D Sport 4-Door Saloon. In blue with black suede interior, air con, cruise control, immobiliser, alloy wheels, only 40,482 miles £9,995
- 04 54 BMW 316 TI ES 1.8 Compact 3-dr Hatchback. Black sapphire, anthracite interior, a/c, cd, alloys, only 33,000 miles £6,995
- 02 02 BMW 3 Series 2.0 318ti SE Compact Hatchback 3-dr. In jet black with anthracite interior, parking sensors, multifunction steering wheel, cd, climate control, electric windows and mirrors, only 79,181 miles £4,995
- 01 51 MAZDA MX5 1.8i 2-Door Convertible 10th Anniversary Limited Edition. In metallic blue with blue/black interior, alloy wheels, CD, alarm, immobiliser, body coloured bumpers, only 42,422 miles £5,995

CONVERTIBLES

- 02 52 VOLVO C70 2.0T Convertible 2-dr. In Silver with beige leather upholstery, air con, electric windows and mirrors, CD, alloy wheels, only 63,125 miles £6,995
- 05 05 MGTF 1.6 115 Convertible In ignition blue, rear glass screen, alloy wheels, CD, only 18,025 miles £5,995
- 99 99 T MAZDA MX5 1.8i 2-Door Convertible 10th Anniversary Limited Edition. In metallic blue with blue/black interior, alloy wheels, CD, alarm, immobiliser, body coloured bumpers, only 42,422 miles £5,495
- 03 53 MG TF Convertible 1.8 135 16v 2-dr. In metallic silver with dark interior, alloy wheels, CD, only 22,723 miles £4,495

EXECUTIVE/SPORTS

- 07 07 JAGUAR S-Type 2.7D V6 XS Automatic 4-dr Saloon. In metallic silver with black leather interior, body coloured pack, rear parking sensors, climate control, traction control system, only 13,000 miles £18,995
- 03 03 AUDI TT Roadster 1.8 Petrol 150bhp. In black, with biscuit leather interior, alloy wheels, CD, heated seats, only 32,000 miles £9,995
- 04 54 TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi Premium Coupe. In crystal silver with Montreal black leather interior, climate control, alloy wheels, immobiliser, deadlocks, alarm, CD, only 27,953 miles £8,995
- 54 54 ROVER 75 Tourer 2.0 CDTi Connoisseur SE 5-Dr Estate Automatic. In Cimarón Green with black leather interior, walnut dash and steering wheel, alloy wheels, rear parking sensors, only 48,180 miles £6,995
- 03 53 PEUGEOT 406 2.2 HDi SE Coupe 2-dr. In Silver with red Amarante leather interior, alarm, alloy wheels, CD, GPS navigation, cruise control, heated front seats, only 46,700 miles £5,995
- 02 52 AUDI A4 SE 2.0 Petrol 4-dr Saloon Automatic. In Crystal Blue with phoenix cloth interior, parking sensors on front and rear, air con, alloy wheels, electric windows, only 55,560 miles £5,995
- 04 04 FORD Mondeo 1.8 SCI Ghia 5-dr. In Stardust silver with dark interior, air con, steering wheel mounted controls, CD, alarm, only 33,795 miles £4,995
- 51 51 TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi 3-dr Coupe in crystal silver with black leather interior, air con, sunroof, alloy wheels, cd, only 43,612 miles £4,995
- 52 52 FIAT Stilo Dynamic 1.9 JTD. In metallic Murrano blue with Ercole blue interior, air con, alloy wheels, CD, electric windows, only 69,181 miles £2,995

ECONOMICAL SMALL CARS

- 08 58 FORD Fiesta 1.4 TDCi Zetec Climate 5-dr Hatchback. In amethyst purple with tungsten denim blue interior, air con, CD, MP3 connection, Isofix anchorage point, colour coded bumpers, only 9,590 miles £8,995
- 07 07 FORD Fusion Zetec Climate 1.4 5-dr Hatchback. In metallic tango red with onyx dream interior, alloy wheels, chrome front grille surround, front fog lights, trip computer, air con, only 10,870 miles £6,995
- 07 07 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Look 3-dr Hatchback in aluminium silver with Madison graphite interior, air con, trip computer front windows, only 9,120 miles £6,495
- 56 56 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Zetec Climate 3-dr Hatchback in tonic blue with tungsten/denim interior, air con, alloy wheels, quick clear screen, cd, front fogs, only 24,250 miles £6,495
- 56 56 CITROEN C3 1.4i Desire 5-dr Hatchback. Artic blue, tony blue interior, a/c, oil, pas, 5 seats £5,995
- 06 06 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Verve 3-dr Hatchback. In onyx black with madison grey interior, air con, alloy wheels, CD, low insurance, only 14,545 miles £5,995
- 06 06 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v Dynamique 3-dr Hatchback. In odyssey blue with jacquard black interior, front fogs, alloy wheels, CD, only 35,870 miles £5,995
- 56 56 PEUGEOT 107 1.0 12v Urban 3-Dr Hatchback. In Raven black with black matrix interior, electric windows, CD, colour coded bumpers, only 16,465 miles £5,995
- 05 05 NISSAN Micra 1.2 16v Urbis 5-Dr Hatchback. In Grey with dark grey interior, rear parking sensors, CD, alloy wheels, only 12,215 miles £5,495
- 04 04 RENAULT Clio 1.5dCi Dynamique 5-dr hatchback in Odyssey met blue with jacquard black interior, sunroof, alloy wheels, air con, alarm, cd, only 31,538 miles £4,995
- 03 03 TOYOTA Yaris GS 1.0L Petrol 5-dr. In dark green, with grey interior, central locking, CD, only 63,500 miles £3,995
- 02 02 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v Privilege 5-Dr Hatchback. In Nordic green with vertigo grey interior, air con, 5 belted seats, body coloured bumpers, power steering, only 38,940 miles £3,995
- 04 04 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0 Life 3-Dr Hatchback. In breeze blue with Orleans charcoal interior, CD, 5 belted seats, steering wheel audio mounted controls, only 56,321 miles £3,495
- 02 02 FORD KA 1.3 Hatchback in Blue with blue interior, pas, insurance group 2, only 58,587 miles, £2,495

FAMILY SELECTION

- 07 56 TOYOTA Auris T3 D-4D. In Ixion Blue Mica, with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, trip computer, shift indicator, only 12,700 miles £9,995
- 07 07 FORD Focus Zetec Climate 1.8 TDCi in moon dust silver with rack ebony interior, quick clear front screen, air con, alloy wheels, only 19,200 miles £8,995
- 06 56 FORD Focus 1.6 Ghia 5-dr Hatchback Automatic. In aquarius blue with cubical ebony interior, air con, cruise control, quick clear screen, only 26,900 miles £7,995
- 57 57 VAUXHALL Astra 1.4 16v Energy In star silver with charcoal interior, air con, CD, MP3 connection, Isofix anchorage points, only 8,810 miles £7,995
- 06 06 HONDA Civic 5-Dr 1.7 CDTi 5-Dr Hatchback. In magnetic blue with hatch black interior, body coloured bumpers, alloy wheels, CD, only 50,300 miles £6,495
- 05 05 FORD Mondeo 2.0 TDCi 130 Ghia 5-Dr. In machine silver with ebony black interior, CD multichanger, quick clear front screen, colour coded bumpers, tow ball with twin electrics, only 33,685 miles £5,995
- 04 04 FORD Focus C-Max 2.0 TDCi Ghia MPV. In moon dust silver with Linea ebony interior, alarm, cruise control, CD, alloy wheels, only 54,290 miles £5,995
- 03 03 RENAULT Megane 1.6 16v Dynamique 5-dr. In metallic Hessian with charcoal grey interior, panoramic roof, air con, CD, auto lights, electric windows front and rear, 56,752 miles £3,995
- 04 04 FORD Mondeo 1.8 Mistrial 5-dr. In Tonic Blue with majestic ebony upholstery, air con, central locking, CD, alloy wheels, only 61,165 miles £3,995
- 04 04 MG ZR 1.4 3-dr. In metallic grey with half leather interior, electric windows, air con, alloy wheels, CD, only 63,335 miles £3,995
- 01 51 PEUGEOT 206 1.6GLX 5-dr. In metallic blue with dark interior, air con, front fogs, only 64,000 miles £2,995



07 07 BMW 320D SE 4-dr Automatic Saloon. In titanium silver with anthracite interior cruise control, automatic air con, multifunction leather steering wheel, rear parking sensors, only 29,440 miles £16,995



05 05 NISSAN Micra 1.2 16v Urbis 5-Dr Hatchback. In Grey with dark grey interior, rear parking sensors, CD, alloy wheels, only 12,215 miles £5,495



04 54 TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi Premium Coupe. In crystal silver with Montreal black leather interior, climate control, alloy wheels, immobiliser, deadlocks, alarm, CD, only 27,953 miles £8,995



06 06 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v Dynamique 3-dr Hatchback. In odyssey blue with jacquard black interior, front fogs, alloy wheels, CD, only 35,870 miles £5,995



06 56 PEUGEOT 107 1.0 12v Urban 3-Dr Hatchback. In Raven black with black matrix interior, electric windows, CD, colour coded bumpers, only 16,465 miles £5,995



04 04 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0 Life 3-Dr Hatchback. In breeze blue with Orleans charcoal interior, CD, 5 belted seats, steering wheel audio mounted controls, only 56,321 miles £3,495



04 53 BMW 320D Sport 4-Door Saloon. In blue with black suede interior, air con, cruise control, immobiliser, alloy wheels, only 40,482 miles £9,995



99 T MAZDA MX5 1.8i 2-Door Convertible 10th Anniversary Limited Edition. In metallic blue with blue/black interior, alloy wheels, CD, alarm, immobiliser, body coloured bumpers, only 42,422 miles £5,495

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05	Fusion City 1.4 5dr in Silver, 33,000 miles	£4995
04	Toyota Corolla T2 VVTi 1.4 5dr in Silver, 22,000 miles	£4995

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05	Astra Life 1.8 AUTO 5dr in Gold, 19,261 miles	£5495
57	Astra Life 1.4 5dr in Black	£6995
57	Astra Life 1.4 5dr in Grey, Air Con, 23,231 miles	£6995
57	Astra Life 1.4 5dr in Silver, 25,393 miles	£6995
57	Astra Life VVT 1.6 Est in Silver, 14,886 miles	£6695
07	Astra Life 1.6 Estate in Silver	£6695
07	Astra Design VVT 1.8 Estate in Star Silver	£6995
57	Astra Design in Ultra Blue, 15,161 miles	£7495
55	Astra Design 1.9 3dr DIESEL in Pomegranate, 61,000 miles	£7495
57	Astra SXi 1.7 5dr DIESEL in Silver, 20,000 miles	£8495
56	Astra Sport 1.8 3dr in Silver Lightning, X-Pack, 33,000 miles	£8995
57	Astra Sxi 1.6 Estate in Black Sapphire, 19,683 miles	£8995
57	Astra SRI 1.6 Turbo Sport Hatch 3dr, in Black, 14,367 miles	£9995
57	Astra Elite VVT 1.8 5dr AUTO in Star Silver, 8,973 miles	£9995

AGILA

57	Agila Club 1.2 5dr in Blue, 16,478 miles	£7495
57	Agila Club 1.2 5dr in Blue, 16,478 miles	£7495
08	Agila Club 1.2 5dr in Black, 5,848 miles	£7495
58	Agila Design 1.2 5dr in Blue, 1500 miles	£8295

CORSA

06	Corsa Life 1.2 3dr in Ultra Blue, 20,000 miles	£5495
55	Corsa SXi 1.2 3dr in Black, 21,900 miles	£5695
07	Corsa Life 1.3 5dr in Blue	£6495
08	Corsa Club 1.2 5dr, in Silver Lightning, 15,900 miles	£7695
57	Corsa Club 1.2 3dr in Star Silver, 9,726 miles	£7495
57	Corsa Club 1.2 3dr in Star Silver, Only 9,726 miles	£7495
08	Corsa Breeze 1.2 5dr in Black, 7,777 miles	£7995
08	Corsa Design 5dr	£7995
08	Corsa Club 1.3 5dr DIESEL in Ultra Blue, 20,112 miles	£8495
08	Corsa SXi 1.4 3dr in Black Sapphire, 7,959 miles	£8695
58	Corsa Breeze 1.2 3dr in Red, Delivery Miles Only	£9495
58	Corsa SXi 1.2 3dr in Black Sapphire, 5,486 miles	£9495
58	Corsa Breeze 1.2 3dr in Red, Delivery miles only	£9495
57	Corsa Design CDTi 1.7 3dr DIESEL in Blue, 12,084 miles	£9495

MERIVA

56	Meriva Energy 1.4 MPV in Black, 29,144 miles	£8495
57	Meriva Design 1.6 MPV in Blue, 15,175 miles	£7995
08	Meriva Design MPV in Star Silver, 17,067 miles	£8495
08	Meriva Breeze CDTi MPV DIESEL in Silver, only 4,761 miles	£9495
58	Meriva Design 1.6 MPV in Black Sapphire, 5,500 miles	£9495

VECTRA

57	Vectra Design 1.8 5dr in Pannacotta, 18,252 miles	£8295
08	Vectra Exclusive 1.8 5dr in Black, 11,641 miles	£8295
08	Vectra SRI with Air Con	£8695
07	Vectra Life 1.8 5dr in Blue	£8995
08	Vectra Elite CDTi 1.9 5dr AUTO DIESEL Silver Lightning, 14,047 miles	£11495

ZAFIRA

08	Zafira Exclusiv 1.6 MPV in Black Sapphire, 14,342 miles	£9495
08	Zafira Exclusiv 1.6 MPV in Pannacotta, 12,342 miles	£9495
57	Zafira Design CDTi 1.9 MPV DIESEL in Silver, 18,942 miles	£10295
57	Zafira Design CDTi 1.9 MPV DIESEL in Black Sapphire, 14,871 miles	£10295
57	Zafira Elite CDTi 1.9 MPV DIESEL in Beige, 21,552 miles	£11495
08	Zafira Elite CDTi 1.9 MPV DIESEL in Steel Blue, 17,436 miles	£11995
08	Zafira Elite CDTi 1.9 MPV DIESEL in Pannacotta, 16,162 miles	£11995

RENAULT

08	Renault Clio Dynamique 1.2 Turbo 4dr in Tempest, 12,088 miles	£8995
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CHEVROLET

57	Kalos SX 1.4 5dr in Blue, AUTO, 18,665 miles	£5495
08	Lacetti SX 1.6 5dr in Poly Silver 5,828 miles	£5995
08	Chevrolet Aveo LT 1.4 AUTO 5dr in Poly Silver, 8,551 miles	£7495

AUTOMATICS

07	Amica GSX 1.1 5dr in Yellow, 5,000 miles	£5495
05	Astra Life 1.8 5dr in Gold, 19,261 miles	£5495
56	Astra Life 1.8 in Silver	£6495
08	Chevrolet Aveo LT 1.4 5dr in Poly Silver, 8,551 miles	£7495
57	Corsa Design 1.4 3dr in Black, Only 6,050 miles	£8495
08	Corsa Club 1.4 5dr in Star Silver, Only 8,207 miles	£8995
08	Corsa Design 1.4 5dr in Star Silver, 12,348 miles	£9495
57	Astra Elite VVT 1.8 5dr in Star Silver, Only 8,973 miles	£9995
58	Corsa SXi 1.4 3dr in Metro Blue, 977 miles	£9995
08	Vectra Elite CDTi 1.9 5dr DIESEL in Silver Lightning, 14,047 miles	£11495

OTHER MAKES

07	Amica GSX 1.1 AUTO 5dr in Yellow, Only 5,000 miles	£5495
55	Suzuki Swift GL 1.3 3dr in Grey, 14,000 miles	£5695
07	Fiesta Style 1.2 5dr in Purple, 10,102 miles	£5995
57	Citroen C4 Cool 16v 1.6 5dr in Grey, 13,300 miles	£6995
07	Focus Sport 1.6 5dr in Grey	£7295
04	MX5 VT Sport 1.8 Cabriolet in Silver, 36,000 miles	£7495
56	Suzuki Swift GLX 1.5 AUTO 5dr in Blue, Only 7,000 miles	£7495
57	Clio Dynamique 1.4 5dr in Black, Big Alloys 5299 miles	£7695

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08	Chevrolet Aveo LT 1.4 5dr in Grey, 11,611 miles	£6995
56	Audi A4 2.0 TDCI DIESEL S-Line in Black, lovely condition throughout	£13995

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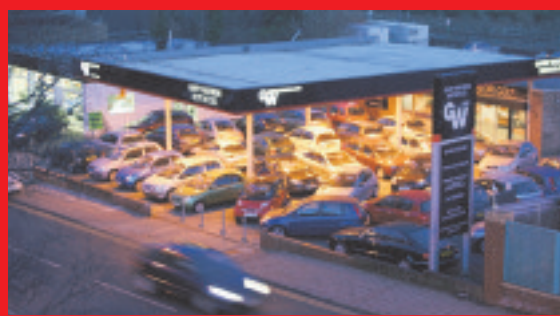
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S4 Fiat Panda 12 Eleganza 5-Dr. In met-light blue, 52,000 miles with A/C, C/D, etc**£3,995**



03 Citroen Picasso 1.6 Desire 2 in met-silver, 54,000 miles, one local owner**£3,995**



05 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Extreme 4. In met. grey, 38,000 miles with CD, alloys**£4,995**



03 RENAULT Clio 1.2 3-Dr. In Silver, 50,000 miles with CD, E/Windows, C/Locking**REDUCED BY £500 TO £2,995**

CONVERTIBLES READY FOR SUMMER

- 99 JAGUAR XKR Convertible. In met silver with ivory leather, 61,000 miles with 20" alloys etc.**£11,995**
 07 RENAULT Megane 1.9 Diesel Dynamique Convertible. Met silver, 21,000 miles, full glass folding roof**£9,495**
 52 BMW 318Ci Convertible In metallic blue with navy hood, 52,000 miles with multi cd, upgraded alloys**£8,995**
 52 MERCEDES SLK 200 In Electric Blue, 50,000 miles, superb example at**£8,995**
 81 MGB Roadster in gunmetal grey with light grey leather trim. Nut and bolt restoration. on offer at**£6,995**
 01 MERCEDES SLK 230 Auto. Silver, black leather trim, 73k miles, looks and drives superb **REDUCED BY £1000 TO £6,995**
 98 MERCEDES SLK 230 Kompressor Auto. Silver, black leather, superb value**£5,995**
 53 MG TF 1.8 in met silver with charcoal leather trim and navy soft top, low mileage example at only**£4,995**
 99 MAZDA MX5 1.8. Met green with beige leather trim, 65,000 miles, host of extras**£4,995**
 03 MGTF 1.8 (135) In met. blue, 25,000 miles, superb example at**£4,695**

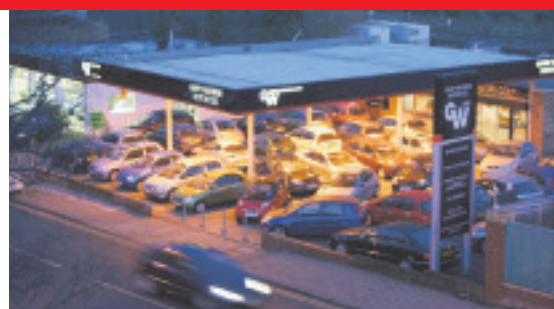
PRESTIGE & 4X4

- 06 VOLVO XC 90 2.4 D5 SE Automatic. In black with black leather trim, 33,000 miles, 7 seater, 4x4 diesel at ... **£18,995**
 56 LEXUS iS 250 SEL (New Shape) Automatic. In met. red with cream leather trim, 17,000 miles, local car at ... **£17,995**
 04 MERCEDES E320CDi Avantgarde Automatic. In tanzania with grey leather trim, 61,000 miles, Full panoramic roof **REDUCED BY £500 TO £12,995**
 56 BMW 118 Diesel Sport In silver with charcoal trim, 27,000 miles, fsh**£12,995**
 56 VW Golf 2.0 TDi GTi (170) 5-dr Automatic. In met-silver, 35,000 miles**£12,995**
 55 MERCEDES C180 Sport Estate Auto in blue/black met with black leather trim, 21,000 miles**£11,995**
 55 MERCEDES C220 CDi SE Sport Coupe Auto. In smoke silver, 58,000 miles, Diesel economy**£11,495**
 54 BMW 530 SE Automatic In met silver with full black leather trim, full specification executive saloon at**£9,995**
 06 JAGUAR X-Type 2.0 Diesel in light blue met with grey half-leather trim, 71,000 miles, value at**£8,995**
 04 BMW 320 Diesel Sport Touring in met grey with black leather trim, fantastic value at**£7,995**
 53 MINI Cooper S in met black with black leather trim, 65,000 miles with pan-roof**£7,995**
 03 MINI Cooper in met silver with black roof and half leather trim, low mileage example with full glass roof**£7,695**
 53 MERCEDES C200 Kompressor 6-speed in black, 46,000 miles with cd, alloys, etc **REDUCED BY £1000 TO £6,995**
 03 TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi in black (limited edition) with 6-speed, cd, a/c, etc**£5,995**
 X MERCEDES CLK 230 Auto in silver with two tone grey leather trim, 61,000 miles, 2 owners**£5,995**
 52 BMW 318 SE in met-silver with charcoal trim with A/C, C/D, alloys**£5,495**
 99 BMW 520 SE Auto In met blue with grey trim, 18" alloys etc.**£2,695**

SMALL, ECONOMICAL AND FAMILY CARS FROM £1,695

- 07 PEUGEOT 407 2.0 HDi S/W in ice blue with full panoramic roof, high spec diesel estate at**£7,995**
 04 TOYOTA Avensis 2.0 Diesel T-Spirit D-4D 5-dr in met silver champagne with black leather trim, 71,000 miles, top of the range diesel at only**£6,995**
 06 NISSAN Micra 1.4 SVE Automatic. In met grey, 26,000 miles, fantastic specification**£6,495**
 55 FORD Focus TDCi Zetec 5-dr in met red, 45,000 miles, stylish, economical hatch **REDUCED BY £500 TO £5,995**
 55 RENAULT Megane 1.5 Diesel Expression Automatic. In met silver, 37,000 miles**£6,495**
 04 TOYOTA Avensis 1.8 T3X in met silver, low mileage family car at only**£5,995**
 55 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 SXi Twin port 5-dr in silver, 36,000 miles, sporty family hatch at**£5,995**
 04 MAZDA 3 TS2 2.0 5-Dr. In met. grey, 34,000 miles, very nice example at**£5,995**
 05 RENAULT Grand Scenic 1.6 Expression in ice blue, 56,000 miles, 7-seater at**£4,995**
 05 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Extreme 4. In met. grey, 38,000 miles with CD, alloys**£4,995**
 03 CITROEN C8 2.0 HDi SX 7 Seater In Jade metallic, 70,000 miles with electric sliding rear doors**£4,995**
 04 SMART CAR Pulse. Red & black, black leather trim, 35,000 miles. full glass roof**£4,995**
 03 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.4 Auto 3-dr in met silver, 37,000 miles, sought after small automatic model**£4,995**
 04 NISSAN Almera 2.2 DCI SE 5-dr. 49,000 miles, superb value diesel at**£4,995**
 04 FORD Mondeo 2.0 TDCi LX 5-dr. In met. grey, 45,000 miles, ideal diesel family hatch**£4,995**
 54 SUZUKI 1.5 VVTi Ignis Sport. In Met Silver, 50,000 miles, with Recara sports seats, alloys etc.**£4,695**
 55 VAUXHALL Agila 1.2 Enjoy. Lilac, 27,000 miles, great specification **REDUCED BY £1000 TO £3,995**
 55 FIAT Punto 1.2 Sunroof Special. In blue, very nice example **REDUCED BY £600 TO £3,695**
 04 FORD Ka 1.3 Style In Silver, low mileage, local car at**£3,695**
 04 DAEWOO Kalos 145X 5-dr. Met blue, 17,000 miles, ideal family hatch, fantastic value**£3,695**
 55 CHEVROLET Lacetti 1.4 SE 5-dr. In black, fantastic value at**£3,495**
 03 RENAULT Megane 1.4 Dynamique 5-dr in met blue, stylish modern family hatch at**£3,495**
 03 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Expression 16v. 3-dr in electric blue, low mileage local car at**£3,495**
 02 MG ZR 2.0 Diesel 3-dr in met burgundy, low mileage example at**£3,295**
 03 RENAULT Clio 1.2 3-Dr. In Silver, 50,000 miles with CD, E/Windows, C/Locking **REDUCED BY £500 TO £2,995**
 03 FORD Ka 1.3i. In Blue, 30,000 miles, local car at**£2,995**
 03 FORD Ka 1.3 Style. In Met. Blue, 45,000 miles, with CD etc. **REDUCED BY £300 TO £2,995**
 53 MG 1.4 ZR 3-Dr. In Bright metallic Green, 55,000 miles, low mileage on offer at**REDUCED BY £500 TO £2,995**
 52 VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 SXi 3-Dr. In met. silver, 69,000 miles, full sports pack plus upgraded alloys**£2,995**
 Y NISSAN Micra 1.0 S 5-dr Automatic. In met-green, 21,000 miles, 2 lady owners from new**£2,995**
 03 FORD Ka 1.3. In Blue, 48,000 miles with PAS, CD etc. **REDUCED BY £300 TO £2,695**
 W FORD Puma 1.7 Met silver, 59,000 miles, with a/c, c/d, alloys **REDUCED BY £500 TO £2,495**
 Y VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.6 Estate In Silver with privacy glass, roof rails etc. **REDUCED BY £500 TO £2,495**
 02 DAEWOO Tacuma 1.6 SX in silver, 55,000 miles, a/c, cd**£1,995**
 Y HONDA Accord 1.8 Vetec. Black, automatic, 92,000 miles, reliable Japanese family car**£1,995**
 W CITROEN Saxo 1.4 Furio. Electric blue, low insurance and road tax **REDUCED BY £300 TO £1,695**

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99 JAGUAR XKR Convertible. In met silver with ivory leather, 61,000 miles with 20" alloys etc.**£11,995**



52 BMW 318Ci Convertible In met blue with navy hood, 52,000 miles with multi cd, upgraded alloys**£8,995**



07 RENAULT Megane 1.9 Diesel Dynamique Convertible. Met silver, 21,000 miles, full glass folding roof**£9,495**



52 MERCEDES SLK 200 In Electric Blue, 50,000 miles, superb example at**£8,995**



81 MGB Roadster in gunmetal grey with light grey leather trim. Nut and bolt restoration. on offer at**£6,995**



01 MERCEDES SLK 230 Auto. Silver, black leather trim, 73k miles, looks and drives superb**REDUCED BY £1000 TO £6,995**



06 VOLVO XC 90 2.4 D5 SE Automatic. In black, leather trim, 33,000 miles, 7 seater, 4x4 diesel at**£18,995**



98 MERCEDES SLK 230 Kompressor Auto. Silver, black leather, superb value**£5,995**



53 MG TF 1.8 in met silver with charcoal leather trim and navy soft top, low mileage example at only**£4,995**



03 MGTF 1.8 (135) In met. blue, 25,000 miles, superb example at only**£4,695**



55 MERCEDES C180 Sport Estate Auto in blue/black met with black leather trim, 21,000 miles**£11,995**



02 PEUGEOT 206 CC 2.0 SE in met-blue with black leather, 45,000 miles with bodykit**£4,995**



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07 BMW 116i SE 5-dr. Finished in titanium silver pearlpoint, orange cloth/black leather, interior sports seats, alloys, climate control, radio, cd, reverse parking sensors, folding mirrors, 42k £10995



06 AUDI A3 SE 1.9TDI (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in black, alloys, climate, cd, 67k £8995



05 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.2S 3-dr. Finished in mars red, pas, r/c/l, e/w, a/c, 34k £4995



06 PEUGEOT 206 cc 1.6 Allure. Finished in moonstone blue metallic, alloys, a/c, radio, cd, 28k £7495

CONVERTIBLES

- 06 PEUGEOT 206 CC 1.6 Allure. Finished in moonstone blue met, alloys, a/c, radio, cd, 28k £7495
 05 RENAULT Megane CC 1.9 DCi (Diesel) Dynamique. Finished in met grey, alloys, climate, cd, 50k £7495
 05 PEUGEOT 206 CC Quicksilver 1.6. Finished in met silver with Quicksilver trim, alloys, climate control, cd, 38k £6795
 54 PEUGEOT 307 CC 2.0. Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, cd, 1 owner, 34k £6995
 52 BMW 330 Ci Convertible. Finished in met silver, full grey leather, alloys, climate, multi-cd, heated seats, 66k £9295

SPORTS/EXECUTIVE

- 57 VAUXHALL Astra 1.9 CDTI (Diesel) (150bhp) 16v SRI. Met black, full black leather, sports seats, pas, alloys, a/c, 25k £10295
 07 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.6 VXR 3-Dr. Finished in met black, half leather, alloys, a/c, cd, sports seats, 23k £10995
 07 BMW 116i SE 5-Dr. Finished in titanium silver pearlpoint, orange cloth/black leather interior, sports seats, alloys, climate control, radio, cd, reverse parking sensors, folding mirrors 42k £10995
 07 FIAT Punto Sporting M-Jet 1.9 (Diesel) 3-dr. Finished in black, alloys, a/c, cd, 13k £7295
 56 AUDI Q7 S-Line 3.0TDI (Diesel) Quattro. Finished in met black with black leather/suede interior, 20" alloys, climate control, cd, 1 owner, fsh, 28k £25995
 06 AUDI A3 SE 1.9TDI (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in black, alloys, climate, cd, 67k £8995
 55 BMW 525 SE (Diesel) Auto Finished in met silver with full black Dakota leather, alloys, climate, cd, 1 owner fsh, 55k £12995
 54 SEAT Leon Cupra 1.8 20v Turbo 5-dr finished in black, alloys, climate control, cd multichanger, 1 owner, 74k £5495
 52 BMW 316 TI Compact SE. Finished in black, alloys, a/c, cd, 72k £5195
 52 PEUGEOT 206 GTI 2.0 3-dr. Finished in china blue met, leather/suede interior, pas, alloys, climate, cd £4295
 Y PEUGEOT 206 GTI 2.0 3-dr. Finished in met silver, black leather trim, alloys, climate, cd, 36k £3695
 T FIAT Coupe Turbo 2.0. Finished in speed red, full black leather, alloys, a/c, cd 12 disc multichanger, 81k £2695

4x4 / MPV / ESTATE

- 07 RENAULT Megane Dynamique 1.6 VVTi Sport Tourer. Finished in met grey, alloys, a/c, cd, 18k £6995
 07 VAUXHALL Meriva 1.6 Design Finished in met silver, twin electric sunroofs, a/c, radio, cd, 16k £6995
 56 AUDI Q7 S-Line 3.0TDI (Diesel) Quattro. Finished in met black with black leather/suede interior, 20" alloys, climate control, cd, 1 owner, fsh, 28k £25995
 06 PEUGEOT Partner Totem 1.9D (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in met grey, pas, e/w, a/c, cd, 1 owner, 30k £5495
 55 PEUGEOT Partner Totem 1.9 (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in met ice blue, pas, c/l, e/w, cd, 33k £5495
 05 RENAULT Megane Sport Tourer Dynamique 1.9 DCi (Diesel) Estate. Met grey, alloys, climate, cd, fsh, 1 owner £4695
 05 FORD Mondeo LX 2.0 TDCi (Diesel) Estate. Finished in platinum met, a/c, cd, pas, c/l, e/w, 1 owner, fsh £4195
 54 FORD Focus C-Max 1.8LX 5-dr. Finished in moonstone silver, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, radio, cd, 37k £4995
 53 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.6 Club 5-dr. Finished in metallic green, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, 7-seats, 55k £3995
 03 NISSAN Almera Tino S 1.8 5-dr. Finished in met silver, pas, c/l, e/w, climate control, 43k £3695

FAMILY CARS

- 57 FIAT Bravo Active 1.9 Multijet 5-dr (Diesel) Finished in met black, alloys, a/c, cd, 26k £7995
 07/57 VAUXHALL Astra 1.9 CDTI 16v SRI. Met black, full black leather sports seats, pas, alloys, a/c, 25k £10295
 07 SEAT Leon Reference 1.9 TDI 5-dr (Diesel) Finished in met silver, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, cd, 51k £7995
 56 CITROEN C4 VTR+ 1.6 5-dr. Finished in met silver, alloys, climate, cd, 24k £6295
 06 FORD Focus 1.6 Zetec Climatic T 3-dr. Finished in moonstone silver, alloys, climate, cd, 1 owner, 33k £6295
 06 CITROEN C4 1.4 VT Coupe. Finished in met grey, pas, r/c/l, e/w, cd, 1 owner, fsh, 37k £4995
 06 PEUGEOT 307 1.6S 5-dr. Finished in black, alloys, a/c, cd, 31k £5995
 06/55 FORD Focus 1.6 Ghia 5-dr. Finished in panther black met, alloys, a/c, cd, 1 owner, FSH, 40k £6795
 55 VOLKSWAGEN Passat SE 2.0 TDI (Diesel) 4-dr. Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, 6-speed, 1 owner, fsh, 63k £6795



06 CITROEN C3 1.1 Desire 5-dr. Finished in mauritius blue, pas, r/c/l, e/w, a/c, cd, 1 owner, 9k £5495



06/55 FORD Focus 1.6 Ghia 5-dr. Finished in panther black met, alloys, a/c, cd, 1 owner, FSH, 40k £6795



53 NISSAN Micra 1.2S 3-dr. Finished in met silver, pas, r/c/l, e/w, cd, 56k £3495



55 VOLKSWAGEN Passat SE 2.0 TDI (Diesel) 4-dr. Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, 6-speed, 1 owner, fsh, 63k £6795

SMALL CARS

- 57 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style 3-dr. Finished in jeans blue met, pas, a/c, radio/cd, e/w, 10k £6795
 57 SMART Fortwo Pure 71 Auto. Finished in black, pas, r/c/l, cd, 6k, only £35 per year road tax £5995
 07 FORD Fiesta Zetec Climatic 1.4 TDCi (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in black, alloys, a/c, cd, 42k, only £35 per year road tax £6795
 56 CITROEN C3 Desire 1.4 HDi (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in wicked red, pas, r/c/l, e/w, a/c, cd, 1 owner, 33k £5795
 56 HYUNDAI Getz 1.1 GSI 3-dr. Met ice blue, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, cd, 27k £4695
 06 PEUGEOT 206 Verve 1.4 HDi (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cd, 36k £5995
 06 CITROEN C3 1.1 Desire 5-dr. Finished in mauritius blue, pas, r/c/l, e/w, a/c, cd, 1 owner, 9k £5495
 55 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Dynamique 3-dr. Finished in met silver, pas, c/l, e/w, sunroof, radio, cd, 27k £4995
 05 MAZDA 2 1.4 Antares 5-dr. Finished in met grey, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, 27k £3195
 05 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.2S 3-dr. Finished in Mars red, pas, r/c/l, e/w, a/c, 34k £4995
 54 RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.5 DCi Diesel 3-dr. Finished in met silver, alloys, sunroof, cd, 70k. only £35 a year tax £4495
 04 TOYOTA Yaris 1.0 T3 5-dr. Finished in met silver, c/l, e/w, pas, 48k £4995
 04 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Dynamique 5-dr. Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, cd £4295
 04 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Finesse 3-dr. Finished in forest green, pas, cd £3995
 04 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0 Life 3-dr. Finished in met silver, pas, r/c/l, e/w, cd, 38k £3495
 53 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Dynamique 3-dr. Finished in red, pas, c/l, e/w, cd, 35k £4495
 53 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Fever 3-dr. Finished in moonstone blue, pas, c/l, e/w, cd, 39k £3995
 53 NISSAN Micra 1.2S 3-dr. Finished in met silver, pas, r/c/l, e/w, cd, 56k £3495
 53 FORD Ka 1.3 finished in met black, pas, radio/cd, alloys £3195
 03/52 FORD KA 1.3 Style. Finished in met silver, pas, drivers air bag, radio cass, insurance group 3, 39k £2595
 02 VOLKSWAGEN Lupo 1.4E 3-dr. Finished in black, pas, rear wash/wipe, 67k £3495
 02 RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.6 3-dr. Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cd £3295
 Y PEUGEOT 206 1.1 Style 3-dr. Finished in crystal met green, pas, c/l, e/w, cd £2695

COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

- 06 FORD Transit 280 SWB (Diesel) Finished in white, low roof, side loading door, ply lined, 53k £4895+VAT
 06 VAUXHALL Vivaro 1.9 CDTI SWB (Diesel) Finished in white, side loading door, ply lined, 59k £4895+VAT
 56 FORD Transit Connect 200 (Diesel) Finished in white, side loading door, ply lined, 62k £3995+VAT
 05 VAUXHALL Astra Envoy CDTI (Diesel) Van. Finished in orange, pas, r/c/l, 62k £2995+VAT

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05 RENAULT Megane 1.4 Dynamique
40k, alloys, air con, CD player,
sports interior, low tax and insurance



03 MG TF 1.8 Sprint 48k, ABS, pas, cd
player, passenger airbag, traction
control, alarm



T FORD Galaxy 1.9 Zetec T/Diesel Auto
73k, ABS, passenger airbag, traction
control, low insurance rating



53 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Dynamique
2 owners, e/pack, alloys,
CD system, low tax and insurance



R SEAT ALHAMBRA 1.9 TDI 7 Seater
e/pack, climate, roof rails,
superb mpg



Y BMW 325i SE
70k, fsh, alloys, climate, cruise
control, CD system, luxury

- 04 PEUGEOT 307 2.0 HDi SW** 40k, e/pack, low ins, 50mpg **£4695**
53 RENAULT CLIO 1.2 Extreme 3 lady owner, alloys, jazzy interior,
CD system low tax and insurance **£3395**
53 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Look 5 dr, low mileage, air con, service history,
in titanium met only **£3695**
03 RENAULT CLIO 1.2 Expression 40k, lady owner, e/pack, CD player,
low tax and insurance **£3995**
03 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 XT SW 40k, e/pack, alloys, air con, jazzy interior,
low tax & insurance **£3995**
03 FORD MONDEO 1.8 LX a/con, cd player, e/pack, value at **£2495**
03 FIAT PUNTO 1.2 ACTIVE 70k, lady owner, e/pack, low ins **£2995**
52 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 LX 70k, a/con, cd system, low ins **£3495**
52 FORD FOCUS 1.6 LX Facelift 80k, a/con, CD system **£2995**
52 HYUNDAI ACCENT 1.5 GSi T/Diesel 70k, s/history, e/pack,
superb economy, low insurance **£2995**
52 FORD FIESTA 1.25 Finesse 60k, pas, CD system, low tax & ins,
superb throughout **£3495**
52 RENAULT MEGANE 1.4 Dynamique 50k, e/pack, alloys, low ins **£3495**
51 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CLUB 54k, lady owner, e/pack **£2695**
51 ROVER 25 1.6 il alloys, a/con, e/pack, superb at **£1995**
51 VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8 CD alloys, multi cd, a/con superb **£1995**
02 CITROEN PICASSO 1.6 LX Only one owner, fsh, in metallic red **£2995**
02 MERCEDES E220 Cdi Classic **Auto** alloys, climate, cruise,
e/pack, diesel economy for **£5995**
02 RENAULT LAGUNA 1.8 Expression 60k, e/pack, CD system,
air con, plush interior, ideal family hatch **£2695**
02 FORD FOCUS 1.8 Ghia 80k, 2 owners, top spec **£2795**
02 FORD FOCUS 1.8 LX TDCi 1.6 CLUB a/con, alloys, cd system, 50mpg **£3295**
02 ROVER 75 Classic CDTi 2 owners, e/pack, alloys **£2995**
02 RENAULT LAGUNA 1.9 DCi Authentique met silver, alloys, 45+ mpg **£2995**
Y ALFA ROMEO 2.0 166 16v TS Executive Italian Saloon comprehensive
service records, inc cambelt in superb order only **£2695**
Y ALFA 156 2.4 JTD LUSO T/Diesel leather, etc, rare **£1895**
Y ALFA 156 T/SPARK LUSO 86k, momo leather, a/con, cd system **£1995**
01 X MERCEDES E320 Cdi Diesel sought after model with full leather **£3995**
X RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 SPORT CONV 60k, power hood, alloys **£2995**
X CITROEN PICASSO 1.6 LX a/con, cd player, plush trim **£1995**
W FORD Escort 1.6 Finesse Estate 80k, alloys, a/con **£1695**
W VAUXHALL OMEGA 2.0 GLS **Auto** 80k, s/history, e/pack, alloys,
spacious saloon at **£1795**
S VW POLO 1.4 CL 2 owners, p/steering, e/pack, low tax and
insurance, only **£1695**
S FORD FOCUS 1.8 LX 80k, alloys, leather, family hatch **£2495**
97 P HONDA CIVIC 1.4 Esi 3 dr, hatch, good reliable, low cost motoring **£795**
96 N JAGUAR XJ 3.6 SE full cream leather, 18" sport alloys,
in claret red me **£2695**



99 V FIAT COUPE 20v 2.0 74k,
s/history, pas, e/windows, c/locking, air
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GEM sport

League promotion jubilation for the first team as...

THE ATHLETIC HIT PEAK FORM AT THE CRUCIAL MOMENT!



The Bridgend Athletic first and second team squads (Photograph by JOHN LUNN).

BRIDGEND ATHLETIC 37
LOUGHOR 15

COMING into this game Loughor and Bridgend Athletic were second and third in Division Two West – both on 64 points.

Loughor led on try count, but with the Athletic having two games in hand, while Loughor had won the reverse fixture by 15-13. They were also boosted by the return from injury of their influential captain former Bridgend scrum-half Steve Wake.

The Athletic coaches had been working hard in recent weeks on the forwards providing quick ball to play 15 man rugby at a very high tempo. All this work bore fruition as all 19 players used stuck to the plan and the bigger and heavier Loughor outfit could not live with the pace of the game.

The Athletic turned in their best performance of the season running in six tries to win by 37-15.

Instrumental in the plan was the massive influence of lock Sean Williams in the pack and young scrum half Sean Owens, making his first start in a game this season. Owens showed no respect for reputations as he tore huge holes time and again in the Loughor defence with his speed off the mark, and provided his half back partner the highly experienced Stuart Morris with quick possession to release the potent Athletic back division.

Last week's Welsh Youth Cup winning full back Mike Hathaway also started a senior game for the first time this season, and showed he will be challenging next season for a first team spot.

Within five minutes of the start, centre Robert Coles had twice broken through the defence – but try-scoring passes failed to go to hand.

Morris broke the deadlock with a penalty goal. Quick thinking by Owens saw him take a quick penalty and release Morris who broke two tackles to cross for his ninth try of the season.

Outside half Craig Bamfield reduced the deficit with a penalty.

The Athletic's second try was a joy to watch. Slick interpassing in midfield by centre Hywel Davies and No 8 Dan Apsee saw Owens released. When stopped close to the line, the whole Athletic eight drove him forward for lock Jonathon Stoker to hand on to flanker Chris Whitcombe to dive over. Morris converted to put his side 15-3 ahead.

Just before half time, the Loughor pack gained a foothold in the Athletic 22 and wing Rory Saunders took a pass on the burst to cross under the posts. Bamfield's conversion was the final act of the first half, to reduce Loughors' deficit to 15-10.

The Athletic started the second half in whirlwind fashion and were awarded a penalty in front of the posts inside the Loughor 22. Eyebrows were raised when captain Simon Mustoe elected for a scrum.

All looked lost when Loughor gained possession and cleared from their line. However, wing Lyndsey McCausland gathered the clearance 35 metres out on the touchline and ran strongly before interpassing with fellow wing Rod Davies and diving over in the corner for his 10th try of the season.

Mustoe's faith in his fellow front row colleagues, props Rod Jones and Alun Minifey, and his decision

to keep their forward momentum had been justified.

Replacement wing Tom Goodwin then got in on the act. Some excellent forward play involving prop Rod Jones and flanker Matthew Hillman saw the backs released and Goodwin dived over in the corner for his first try of the season, securing a bonus point with his side's fourth try.

The Athletic used their remaining replacements with lock Jamie Doherty, prop Tim Lunn and flanker Stephen Chappell coming on fresh. Loughor responded with a pushover try from their large pack to bring them back into the game at 25-15. Having got the feeling of crossing the whitewash Goodwin then repeated the act.

Flanker Chris Whitcombe charged down an attempted clearance kick and fed Owens. The back line was released, with Goodwin again diving over in the same corner spot.

The Athletic continued to press with Sean Williams, Dan Apsee and replacement lock Jamie Doherty influential, and from a five metre scrum quick ball saw wing Rod Davies cross from a training ground move. Morris converted to bring up 450 league points for the Athletic in 20 games.

While the prospect of facing Bridgend in Division One West next season beckons, the club genuinely hopes that Bridgend can rally and win their two remaining fixtures this season, and retain their Premiership status.

It will be a sad day for the borough with no side in the Premiership.

The club would like to thank Mr Steve Fuller of Fuller Automotives and Mr Ian Pelsoe for sponsoring the fixture.

STOP PRESS: Promotion clinched in evening game. See page 25 for a report.

BRIDGEND ATHLETIC 2ND XV 36
LLANHRAN 12

BRIDGEND Athletic defeated their Llanharan counterparts by 36-12 to qualify for the final league play off against Tondy on May 9, at the Old Parish, Maesteg.

This weekend, they also play Tondy in the final of the District Cup at Llanharan. The Athletic have recorded a league double over Tondy – but that will count for nothing in one off games with trophies at stake.

The Athletic played 10 league games winning 7-2 and featuring in a 28-28 draw at Llanharan earlier in the season. Captain Liam Griffiths team have 298 points for, with 168 against, and a favourable 41-17 try differential.

Griffiths and lock Tom Howells played in all 10 league games. Half back Sean Owens is leading points scorer with 126. Richard Dyke and Chris Thomas have scored seven tries apiece, Owens has scored five tries and Gareth Bartlett and Simon Stoker four.

Athletic try scorers were prop Wayne Fookes, lock Lee Grabham, flanker Gareth Bartlett, outside half Richard Dyke, full back Chris Thomas and centre Carl Ellis. Ellis converted two of the tries and full back Chris Thomas accounted for a third conversion.

AB

South Wales Police finish season on a high

CRYNANT RFC 10
SOUTH WALES POLICE 32

THE Police travelled to Crynant to complete the last league fixture for the season.

Playing with the strong wind in their favour, their backs looked very dangerous and half backs Nathan Williams and Ryan Miles looked to split the home defence with every opportunity that came their way.

The Police didn't have to wait long to open the scoring.

Jenkins popped inside to the supporting centre Darryl Thomas, whose well-timed pass put scrum half Nathan Williams over for the try. Outside half Miles added the conversion.

Miles then extended the Police lead with a well-taken 40-metre penalty. It was Miles again who put the Police further ahead with an excellent individual try. He converted his own try.

The front row of Meirion Lewis, Karl Davies and Rob Evans were solid in the set piece and provided good ball in the loose, while second row and captain Gerald Hodgson was prominent in the line-out. Flanker Jason Davies was solid in defence and exciting in attack with ball in hand.

Crynant always looked dangerous, and scored their first try, but the Police replied straight away with a well-taken try by wing Jason Wride, giving the Police an interval lead of 5-22.

The home side started the second half strongly and playing with the wind looked dangerous. However, a good defensive 10 minutes by the Police kept them at bay. The work rate and tackle count of hooker Karl Davies and No 8 Matt Williams was unbelievable.

The Police defence went to sleep and Crynant crossed for another try, the Police were now in search of the bonus point to close this game down and it came with a great solo try when wing Jason Wride went on another brilliant solo run to go over for his second try.



Darryl Thomas making a break for South Wales Police in their win against Crynant.

The Police put the game beyond doubt when winger Mark Down went on a strong run to break some tackles and dive over in the corner.

PRESENTATION EVENING

THE same evening, South Wales Police held a presentation evening with guest of honour Ospreys, Wales and British Lions' star Adam Jones.

The awards were as follows: Clubman Of The Year - Darryl Thomas, Most Promising Player - Jason Davies, Special Achievement Award - Nathan Williams, Players' Player - Karl Davies.

Top Points Scores - Ryan Miles.

Everyone was thanked for their hard work and commitment and with a well deserved break, the Police can now look to take their end of season performance into next season.



Players' Player South Wales Police RFC Karl Davies with Adam Jones, Ospreys, Wales and British Lion star.

Blaengarw fade in second half

CWMGWRACH were the visitors, and the first half was dominated by Blaengarw, with scrum half Rhys Morgan's attacking and defensive play the highlight.

However, where Blaengarw failed to seize their chances Cwmgrach grasped their sole opportunity, scoring a try completely against the run of play to make the half time score

0 - 5.

The second half was a completely different affair. Blaengarw lost players to injury and Cwmgrach gained the upper hand. Aside from a penalty ably slotted over by full back Mike Lewis, Blaengarw never threatened to score.

Instead, Cwmgrach crossed for three more tries, two of which were converted, and the match ended 3-24 in favour of the visitors.

ALUN HILLS Blaengarw RFC.

Ladies golf results

PYLE and Kenfig Golf Club ladies section results in the Bank Holiday mixed fours were: first, Anita and Ken Evans, 45 points; second, Madeline Hanford and Andrew Williams, 40 points; third, Lynne and Peter Williams, 39 points; fourth, Gaynor and Alan Lavelle, 38 points.

Australian Spoons – club qualifiers who will participate in the regional final in July at Langland Bay: Kay Sinclair and Sue Forbes, 36 points; runners-up, Anita Evans and Marlene Morgan, 34 points.

Coronation Foursomes – Club qualifiers will participate in the regional final at Cardigan: Eira Jones and Marlene Morgan, 39 points; runners-up: Sue Forbes and Heather Jenkins, 38 points.

Cancer Relief – first, Marlene Morgan, 43 points; runner-up, Ross Williams, 39 points
Evans Cup – first, Joan Scott, 35 points; runner-up, Kay Sinclair, 34 points.

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